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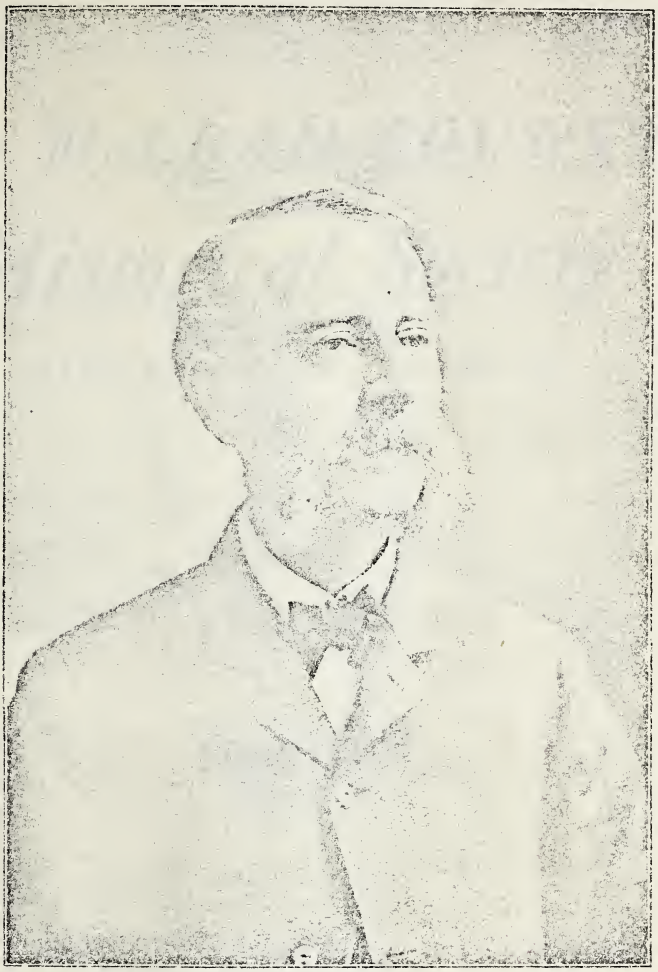

GEORGE PERRIN DAVIS,

President McLean County Historical Society.

TRANSACTIONS

OF

The McLEAN COUNTY Historical Society

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

VOLUME II

SCHOOL RECORD *of* McLEAN COUNTY

With OTHER PAPERS

1598074

John H. Burnham. George P. Davis. Ezra M. Prince.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION OF SCHOOL RECORD
Volume II.

Preface.

In presenting this second volume to the public, the McLean County Historical Society desires to explain the unexpected delay in its appearance. Soon after it was projected and announced, the society determined to hold a meeeting commemorative of the convention held at Bloomington May 29, 1856, that organized the Republican party in Illinois where Abraham Lincoln delivered his famous "Lost Speech." On account of the rapidly thinning ranks of the illustrious men who participated in that meeting, the memorial meeting and its proceedings, Vol. III. of this society could not be postponed. The great fire of June 19, 1900, that destroyed the office of this society and the larger part of the business portion of Bloomington, again postponed our work and we have been greatly delayed in securing some of the material for it.

This volume has been devoted largely to the educational history of the county. It is not exhaustive of the subject, but enough has been given to enable the student to trace its history from its feeble beginnings to its present development.

One of the features of our history is we have here the development of a highly civilized community, all happening within the lifetime of men still living. The first white male child born in McLean county, James Lewis Orendorff, is still living among us, a hale hearty man in the full possession of his mental faculties. Another pioneer, John J. Henline, attended the Indian festivities at the old Kickapoo town in the northern part of this county and a bright old lady, Mrs. Maria Paist, when five years old came here with the first white family in 1822, when her only playmates were the Indian pappooses, and many others remain who have a clear and distinct recollection of our early days. The beginnings of most com-

munities, through lapse of time, are enveloped in obscurity, but here we are able to trace the whole development of our people.

For the first thirty years of our history this county was in a peculiarly isolated condition, with no water or railroad communications, and the roads trails from one grove to another, rather than highways, its markets distant and poor at best. The pioneer period, ending with the advent of the railroads and telegraph in 1853, was radically different in thinking, habits, customs and methods of doing business from the present.

During this pioneer period the population was almost entirely native in birth. Here met and mingled the northern and southern waves of emigration. With the railroads came the foreign emigration, first the Irish and German, later the Scandinavian, with a few English, Scotch and other nationalities. It enriched, broadened, but did not seriously modify or change the impulse given to our society by the first settlers. From the commingling of so many different people has come a peculiarly upright, intelligent, moral, temperate, self-restrained and self-reliant, patriotic people. From such communities progressive and still strongly conservative of the best things of the past will come the leaders of this country in law and politics, in science and the arts, in religion and morals, in labor and literature, and we believe the real development of the central west can nowhere be better observed than here, and that no more intelligent record of the development of these life-giving forces of the country can be found than in the publications of this society, which, we believe, will furnish the best account of the development not only of this county, but of all central Illinois, the garden spot of the world of which McLean county is a fair type and example.

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The McLean County Historical Society. Constitution.

Article I.

The name of this association shall be the McLean County Historical Society.

Article II.

The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, five Trustees and an Executive Committee of five members, three of whom shall constitute a quorum, all of whom shall be elected annually at the quarterly meeting in March and serve until their successors are chosen.

Article III.

The objects of this society shall be to discover, collect and preserve whatever relates to the natural, civil, military, literary and ecclesiastical history of Illinois in general and of McLean county in particular; to maintain a museum and library and extend knowledge upon these subjects by meetings and publications.

Article IV.

Any person may become a member of this association on the payment of two dollars.

Article V.

This Society shall hold quarterly meetings at Bloomington, Illinois, on the first Saturday of March, June, September, and December of each year; provided the Executive Committee may postpone any regular meeting of the Society and the Society may hold such other meetings at Bloomington or elsewhere in the county, as the Executive Committee may think best.

Article VI.

This constitution may be changed or amended at any regular meeting of said Society, the notice in writing of the proposed

amendments having been given at the regular meeting of said Society next preceding the meeting at which the change or amendment is proposed.

BY-LAWS.

1. The President of this Society shall preside at the meetings of this Society and perform all the other duties prescribed by parliamentary law for such officer of similar corporations.

2. The Vice President shall, in case of death or absence of the President, perform the duties prescribed for the President.

3. The Secretary shall keep the records of this Society and perform the correspondence of the Society.

4. The Trustees shall have such powers as devolve upon them by law.

5. The Executive Committee of whom three shall be a quorum, shall provide the program of its meetings and have such advisory powers as shall from time to time be devolved upon them.

6. The Treasurer shall receive and safely keep the monies of this Society and pay the same out on the order of the President and Secretary.

Business Announcement.

The list of officers of the McLean County Historical Society is as follows:—

President—George Perrin Davis.

Vice-President—John Berry Orendorff.

Secretary—Ezra M. Prince.

Executive Committee—J. H. Burnham, E. M. Prince, Charles L. Capen, Robert O. Graham, Richard Edwards, Mrs. W. W. Marmon, Mrs. W. J. Rhodes Mrs J. N. Ward.

This Executive Committee has advisory powers and can execute such business as may be from time to time entrusted to the committee by the Society. Any three of its members may constitute a quorum. There are no dues. All who join pay two dollars, and are then entitled to vote at all meetings and to become permanent members. As this is at present the Society's only financial resource, it is earnestly hoped a much larger number of its friends will at once become members by sending their names and money to the secretary, Mr. E. M. Prince, at Bloomington, Illinois.

Eighty copies of Vol. 1 were owned by the Society at the time of the great fire of 1900. Some of these were intended to be used as exchange with our Historical Societies and it was hoped the others would in time be sold for the benefit of the treasury. They were deposited in the upper part of the Court House and were destroyed by the fire. The Secretary's office was also destroyed by the fire, but the most of our papers were preserved in the fire proof vaults of the First National Bank. Volume 2 contains many papers which were thus preserved.

The Society has now on hand a large collection of papers which are ready for publication. Among these are the complete proceedings of the seventy-fifth anniversaries of Cheney's Grove and Lexington; most of the papers read at our meetings during the past two years, together with quite a number of valuable papers which were read at earlier meetings.

From these different writings another volume should be published and the Society will do well to make plans for another issue as soon as may be thought best.

It gives great pleasure to announce that through the courtesy of the McLean County Board of Supervisors a room in the new fire-proof court house has been assigned to the Society, and it is believed that after the first of June, 1903, all of our meetings will be held in that room.

Quite a number of valuable historical relics and other articles are either now owned by the Society, or are promised it as soon as this room is ready with suitable cases for the display of a variety of valuable articles. The most important of these is the large Philippine collection brought home by Captain F. Y. Miller, which is ready to be placed in our new room. The Society is very fortunate in being able to use this valuable collection as the nucleus of an Historical Museum and it is very probable that other educational or historical collections will either be loaned or donated soon after our room is ready.

On account of the possession of this remarkable collection with other articles, the Society voted to incorporate under the general incorporation law and the legal steps were taken and the following board of offiers were elected on December 28, 1899:

President—George Perrin Davis.
Vice-President—J. B. Orendorff.
Secretary—E. M. Prince.
Treasurer—J. H. Burnham.

Trustees—Lafayette Funk, Richard Edwards, Anthony V. Pierson, Mrs. Martha Ward, Mrs. W. W. Marmon.

The Society is therefore now ready to legally hold real estate or other property, and should its friends donate or devise money, lands, or valuable Historical relics, the Society will be legally competent to carry out any special instructions or to properly care for all property which may come into its possession.

List of Members.

Anderson, William P. (deceased) ..... Holder, Illinois
Aldrich, Frank W ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Bach, Wm. R ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Baker, Sidney D ..... Council Grove, Kansas
Banks, Mark ..... Ellsworth, Illinois
Braley, Theo ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Brandican, N. W ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Bishop, Samuel ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Beaver, William H ..... Abingdon, Illinois
Benjamin, Reuben M ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Bent, Horatio G ..... Bloomington Illinois
Brokaw, Abraham ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Brokaw, Eunice (deceased) ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Brown, Geo. P ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Bunn, Thos. J ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Burnham, J. H ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Burnham, Almira S ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Capen, Chas. L ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Carlock, Madison P ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Carlock, William B ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Condon, John J ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Cook, John W ..... De Kalb, Illinois
Cruikshank, John P ..... Randolph, Illinois
Davis, George P ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Davis, Hibbert O ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Davis, William O ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Dick, George F ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Dolan, Alonzo ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Dyson, Nannie O ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Edwards, Richard ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Evans, Mrs. Rowland N ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Elder, James C ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Ewing, James S ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Fell, Alice C ..... Normal, Illinois
Fell, Fannie ..... Normal, Illinois
Fell, Hester V ..... Normal, Illinois
Felmley, David ..... Normal, Illinois
Frink, George V ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Folsom, Peter (deceased) ..... Bloomington, Illinois
Funk, Absalom B ..... Bloomington, Illinois

Funk, Mrs. Absalom B.....Bloomington, Illinois
Funk, Duncan M.....Bloomington, Illinois
Funk, La Fayette.....Shirley, Illinois
Graham, Robert O.....Bloomington, Illinois
Gastman, George W.....Hudson, Illinois
Graves, Virginia A.....Bloomington, Illinois
Griesheim, Wolf .....Bloomington, Illinois
Hallett, Joseph .....Bloomington, Illinois
Harrison, George B. (deceased).....Bloomington, Illinois
Hoover, Mary P.....Bennet, Nebraska
Hoopes, Benjamin F.....Bloomington, Illinois
Horr, Martha E.....Bloomington, Illinois
Humphrey, John F.....Bloomington, Illinois
Humphrey, Clara F.....Bloomington, Illinois
Ijams, Lewis .....Bloomington, Illinois
Jackman, Sarah F. (deceased).....Bloomington, Illinois
Kerrick, Leonidas H.....Bloomington, Illinois
Kerrick, Thos. C.....Bloomington, Illinois
Kilgore, Thos. B.....Bloomington, Illinois
Kimball, Caroline F.....Bloomington, Illinois
Little, Jehu .....Bloomington, Illinois
Livingston, Isaac .....Bloomington, Illinois
McCormick, Henry .....Normal, Illinois
Marmon, Mrs. William W.....Bloomington, Illinois
Melluish, James G.....Bloomington, Illinois
Merchant, Ira (deceased).....Bloomington, Illinois
Merchant, Mary A.....Bloomington, Illinois
Minier, George W. (deceased).....Chicago, Illinois
Myers, C. D.....Bloomington, Illinois
Myers, John F.....Bloomington, Illinois
Noble, Charles M.....Bloomington, Illinois
Orendorff, John Berry.....Bloomington, Illinois
Orendorff, John Lewis.....Bloomington, Illinois
Owens, Wesley .....Leroy, Illinois
Packard, Thaddeus B.....Bloomington, Illinois
Paist, Maria Dawson.....Bloomington, Illinois
Parke, Dr. Chas. R .....Louisville, Kentucky
Pierson, Anthony V.....Lexington, Illinois
Pike, Edward M.....Chenoa, Illinois
Phillips, Isaac N.....Bloomington, Illinois
Prince, Ezra M.....Bloomington, Illinois
Pitts, John J.....Bloomington, Illinois
Porter, William W.....Cooksville, Illinois
Rayburn, Calvin.....Bloomington, Illinois
Reeves, Mary E.....Bloomington, Illinois

Reeves, Owen T.....Bloomington, Illinois
Reed, John .....Bloomington, Illinois
Rhodes, William J.....Bloomington, Illinois
Rhodes, Mrs. Wm. J.....Bloomington, Illinois
Ropp, Edwin O.....Bloomington, Illinois
Robinson, Sarah D.....Bloomington, Illinois
Russell, Rolland A.....Bloomington, Illinois
Sanders, Sue A.....Bloomington, Illinois
Schaeffer, Hartzell J.....Normal, Illinois
Shaw, Rev. James.....Bloomington, Illinois
Stansberry, Eliza J. (deceased).....Bloomington, Illinois
Sterling, John A.....Bloomington, Illinois
Stewart, Archibald E. (deceased).....Bloomington, Illinois
Stewart, Emily .....Bloomington, Illinois
Smith, Lee, Dr.....Bloomington, Illinois
Smith, Dudley C.....Normal, Illinois
Scott, John M. (deceased).....Bloomington, Illinois
Stubblefield, John .....McLean, Illinois
Stubblefield, George W.....Bloomington, Illinois
Thayer, Amanda .....Bloomington, Illinois
Tipton, Thos. F.....Bloomington, Illinois
Thompson, Wm.....Randolph, Illinois
Ward, Martha .....Bloomington, Illinois
Weaver, Jos. B. (deceased).....Bloomington, Illinois
Weldon, Lawrence .....Bloomington, Illinois
Weldon, Michael Rev.....Bloomington, Illinois
Welty, Sam .....Bloomington, Illinois
Wren, John S.....Bloomington, Illinois
Wertz, Frances M.....Bloomington, Illinois
West, Simeon G.....Leroy, Illinois

NOTE.—The original list of members of the society was destroyed in the great fire of June 19, 1900. The above list has been reproduced from memory and is believed to be substantially correct, but some omissions may have been made. The society would be obliged to any one who may inform the society of any error or omission in this or our former volumes in order that they may be corrected in future volumes.

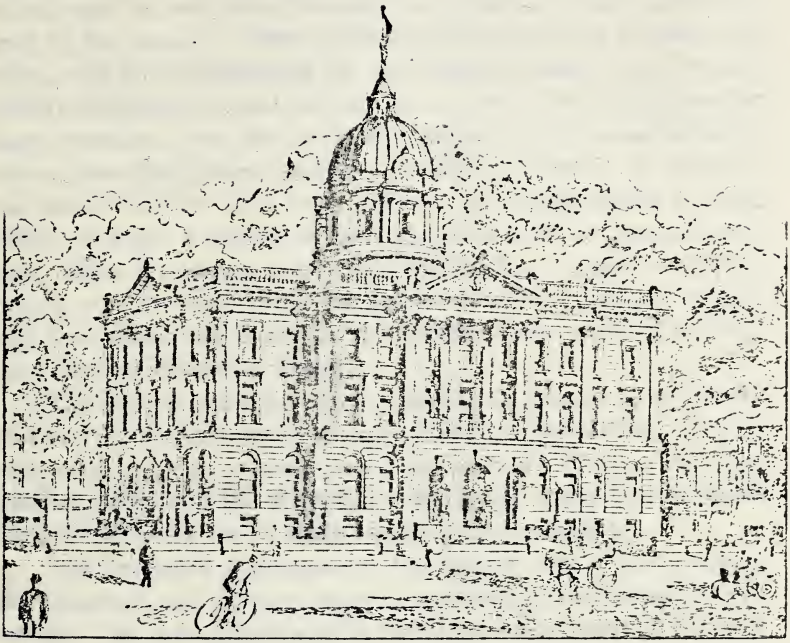
The McLean County Historical Society's Work.

The Society was organized March 12, 1892, and incorporated December 28, 1899. It has held quarterly meetings, at which historical papers have been read and discussed. It has also assisted, through its committees, in celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the settlement of Blooming Grove, Randolph Grove, Funk's Grove, Cheney's Grove and Lexington. It suggested the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the city of Bloomington, and through its committees assisted the city in the preparation of the programme, and in carrying out the same.

The most interesting and important features of all these celebrations, except those of Cheney's Grove and Lexington, have been given to the public in Vol. I and Vol. II, of the Transactions of the McLean County Historical Society, and the proceedings of the Cheney's Grove and Lexington celebrations will be given in the next volume of our Transactions.

In Vol. II will be found the entire account of placing the John McLean Tablet in the county court house, by the Society and the board of supervisors, an event which was first proposed by the McLean County Society.

On May 29, 1900, there was held in Bloomington, a reunion of the survivors of the Republican State Convention of May 29, 1856, which fully and completely organized the Republican party in Illinois. This reunion was initiated by and carried forward under the auspices of this Society. It was participated in by men of all political parties, a generous subscription towards its expenses was made up, mostly by the gentlemen who constituted its committee of arrangements, and from the proceeds, supplemented by the generosity of Mr. George P. Davis, a beautifully illustrated volume of 184 pages, of the speeches and proceedings of the reunion was published, together with other related historical matter, and called Vol. III of the Transactions of the McLean County Historical Society. As none of the Society's funds were in any



COURT HOUSE McLEAN COUNTY, 1903.

manner connected with this reunion, or with the publication of its proceedings, there is no possibility of partisan criticism ever being fastened upon the Society, for its share in carrying out what has been felt by our community as an entirely appropriate historical celebration, which was not only a credit to the county, but to the Society, and also to the state and nation.

It is proper to explain that the publication of Vol. I and Vol. II, has only been made possible by the public spirited action of the McLean county board of supervisors, who have paid the actual cost of one copy of each of our volumes to be placed in each school district in the county. There are nearly three hundred of these districts, and this distribution of the Society's books has not only greatly stimulated public interest in our own work, but it has, in many instances, been the means of starting district school libraries where none had before existed. In quite a number of districts, the school teachers have been induced, by having access to these works, to begin a course of local historical talks or general exercises, which are having a very beneficial influence upon our young people, who are soon to be the active citizens of McLean county, and time alone will show the full benefit of the work of the McLean County Historical Society.

The Society is the first county society in Illinois, to undertake and carry forward a series of local historical publications, and its successful progress is being noted, not only by Illinois, but other western states, and the McLean county board of supervisors should receive full credit for its share in this public enterprise.

The executive committee of the Society feel a just pride in the historical and literary value of the Society's published Transactions. In these papers will be found preserved many of the most important records of pioneer days, records, which if delayed much longer, could not possibly be duplicated, and in very many instances the facts given are of such general application to central Illinois that they have far more than a local value, and are likely to be referred to and consulted by future writers and historical students when seeking to discover historic truth concerning the great prairie districts of the state of Illinois.

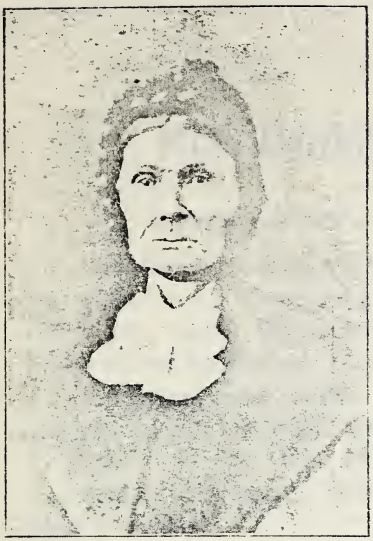
It is not stating the case too strongly to assert that McLean county's pride in its pioneer ancestors has been greatly stimulated

by the eleven years' work of the McLean County Historical Society. But far better than an unmeaning pride of ancestry is the ability of our citizens, through the pages of our printed volumes, to be able to establish beyond dispute or future cavil, the high character of our pioneers, and to prove that through all of the difficulties of home finding and home building, they never lost sight of their duties to coming generations.

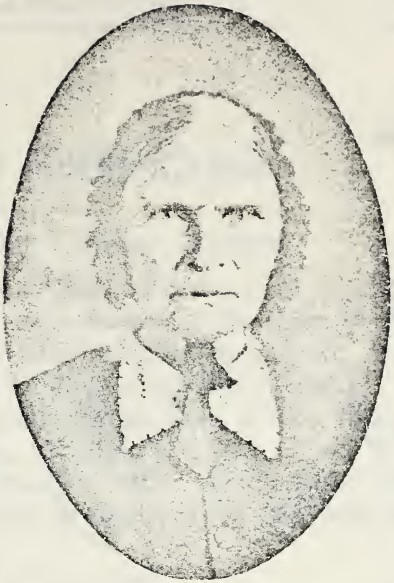
It is a pleasure to refer here, to the literary excellence of most of our published papers, which will bear comparison with the best work of contemporary historical publications, and which cannot fail to have a beneficial effect on the future of our local historic literature, which is likely to become of great literary importance, and to continue on to the indefinite future, an appreciative pride in McLean county's leading position in the civil, religious and material prosperity of the State of Illinois.

J. H. BURNHAM,

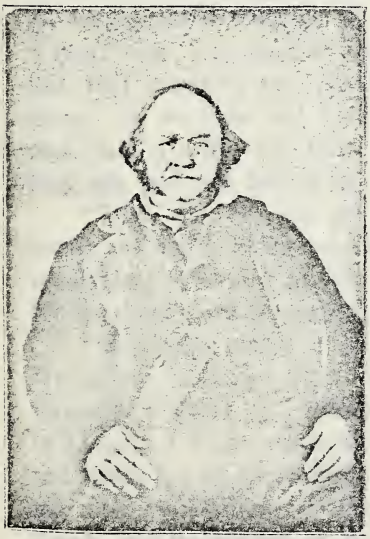
Chairman Executive Committee of the McLean County Historical Society.



MRS. DELILAH MULLIN-EVANS.



MRS. NANCY BIGGS.



BENJAMIN OGDEN.

MRS. SARAH STRETCH OGDEN.

Mrs. Delilah Mullin-Evans.

MCLEAN COUNTY'S FIRST SCHOOL TEACHER.

Mrs. Delilah Evans, widow of William Evans, June 24, 1881, was visited by a Pantagraph correspondent at the house of her sister, Mrs. Nancy Biggs, and from an interview with her, published in the Pantagraph July 4, 1881, we copy the following:

My father, John Mullin, was American born, of Irish descent, and my mother American born, of English descent. I was born in Madison county, Ohio, February 1, 1809. My mother's name was Keziah. My parents had a large family, not all born when we came to Illinois.

A TRIP TO THE WEST.

The way we happened to come west was that in Ohio, where we lived, there was a great stir among the people to go west. Father intended to go only to White River, Indiana, and we did so, leaving home October 17, 1824. We stopped at White River a short time, but some of our neighbors came along and did not like that country, and pursuaded us to go on to Illinois with them. So we came out with Robert Stubblefield and his family, each family with one team and wagon. Mr. Stubblefield died long ago and was buried in Funk's Grove.

"What did you live on while traveling?" We subsisted on bread and meat which we brought with us and we got some few vegetables. The men hunted some, as much for sport as anything, for they were not compelled to.

"How long were you on the journey?" Well, really I forget. We started from our Ohio home October 17, 1824, and we got to Randolph's Grove on December 16. But just how long we stopped in Indiana I do not remember. We stopped at the house of Gardner Randolph at Randolph's Grove and rested a few days. Then we went to William Orendorff's in Keg Grove, now Blooming Grove, and he insisted on our stopping there till my father could select a place. He chose a location on the southeast part of the grove. I do not know who lives there now. Seth Baker lived on it a long time after my father sold it to him.

SETTLERS IN BLOOMING GROVE IN 1824.

"Who lived up and down the grove when you came there?" Well, John Hendrix lived west of my father's, William Walker, Bailey Harbord, John Benson, James Latta, Ebenezer Rhodes, his son, Thomas, who was married; William Orendorff, John Dawson, and my father, John Mullin; also William Hodge, I think, but am not sure.[1]

A WEDDING FIFTY YEARS AGO.

I was married August 14, 1825, to William Evans. He and I had been old acquaintances in Ohio, and he came out the May before. The wedding was at my father's house and Parson James Stringfield, of Sangamon county, married us. A pretty good portion of all the people from Randolph's Grove, Blooming Grove, Funk's Grove, Dry Grove, Twin Grove and Stout's Grove were there. I don't remember all who were there, but there were pretty much all the people I have named over as living in Blooming Grove, and Adam Funk of Funk's Grove, the father of Isaac Funk, Alfred Stringfield of Randolph's Grove and his sisters and mother, the one you now call Capt. Stringfield, and Jesse and Robert, youngest sons of Adam Funk. There were a number of children and young folks, too. A number of Benson's boys and several families of Harbords. We had but a cabin then and it was full and running over with guests. About everybody stood up at the wedding for want of room to sit down.

I was married in a white jackonet brought from Ohio and black morocco slippers from Springfield, Illinois. William wore a summer suit, a gingham coat, had a fur stovepipe hat and I forget about his pants and a white shirt. I wore gloves. Virginia Stringfield fixed up the ornaments about my dress. She stood up with me. I don't remember who stood up with William. It might have been Jesse. It was not Robert, I am sure, for he was too bashful. But for all his bashfulness Robert married Virginia afterwards. The wedding was about one o'clock Sunday afternoon. After the ceremony we had a dinner out of doors. The

[1] The name of Thomas P. Orendorff should be added to the names of the settlers in Blooming Grove in 1824. He came here in 1823 and was married in 1824. id. 154.

table was spread under hickory trees in my father's yard. Those days we would have considered it a scandal to get married on Saturday.

TEACHING THE FIRST SCHOOL.

I taught the first school in Blooming Grove and the first in what is now McLean county. It was a subscription school. They talked about a school and said they wanted me to teach it, and John Dawson came to me and I drew up the subscription paper and he took it around. The price was $2.50 for each scholar for the term of four months. It began about May 1, 1825, and it was running on when I was married. The next morning after the wedding I began teaching again. I taught in John Dawson's house where David Cox now lives.[1] Mr. Dawson had just built a new log cabin and he gave the use of it for the school term, and lived on in his old one till school was out.

"How many scholars did you have?" Well, a good many—more than the old settlers' book gave me credit for, which said I did not have but three or four scholars at the start. I had a small school, but not as small as that. There were four of my own brothers and sisters, John, Jonah, Louisa and Betsy Mullin, Nathan and William, two of John Hendrix's boys; Henry, Maria and Little John,[2] children of John W. Dawson; Delilah, Cynthia and I think Caroline, of John H. S. Rhodes' children; Ebenezer and James, sons of old Ebenezer Rhodes and brothers of John H. S.

[1] On S. ½ S.W. ¼ Sec. 23.

[2] John Dawson, one of the pupils of this first school of Miss Mullen, in the "Good Old Times" page 146, says: "The early settlers were anxious for the education of their children, and indeed a plentiful crop of school children is better for the material interest of the country than a crop of wheat or corn. There were many difficulties to be overcome, but the pioneers had learned never to hesitate at trifles. The school houses were not the little palaces of learning in which children now study their lessons; they were not too comfortably heated in winter but on the other hand there was no lack of ventilation, for the fresh prairie breezes could come through the chinks without any patent appliances. There were no pale students driven into the early stages of consumption for want of pure air. In 1828 Mr. Dawson (senior) built the first school house in McLean county. It was made of logs and lighted with windows of white paper instead of glass. The first school-teacher was Delilah Mullen, who taught her young pupils at Mr. Dawson's house before the school house was finished."

Rhodes; Betsy, William Orendorff's daughter, and Wesley and Sophia, children of William Walker. How many is that?

"Seventeen, counting Caroline Rhodes, of whom you were not sure."

Well, that is all I can think of.

AN ALMANAC FOR A TEXT-BOOK.

"What school books did you have?" Well, not many. They had Webster's spelling book with blue backs. A few had Smith & Smiley's Arithmetic, the English Reader and the Introduction to the English Reader, and a few copies of the Columbian Orator, which was used as a school book. We also had Walker's School Dictionary. One boy brought an almanac, having no other book. Geography and grammar I did not teach. We sent to Springfield for the writing paper, which was not ruled, and wrote with good quill pens. If I had as many dollars as I have made goose quill pens, I should have all the money I would care to use in my lifetime. I ruled the paper, set the copy and made the pens.

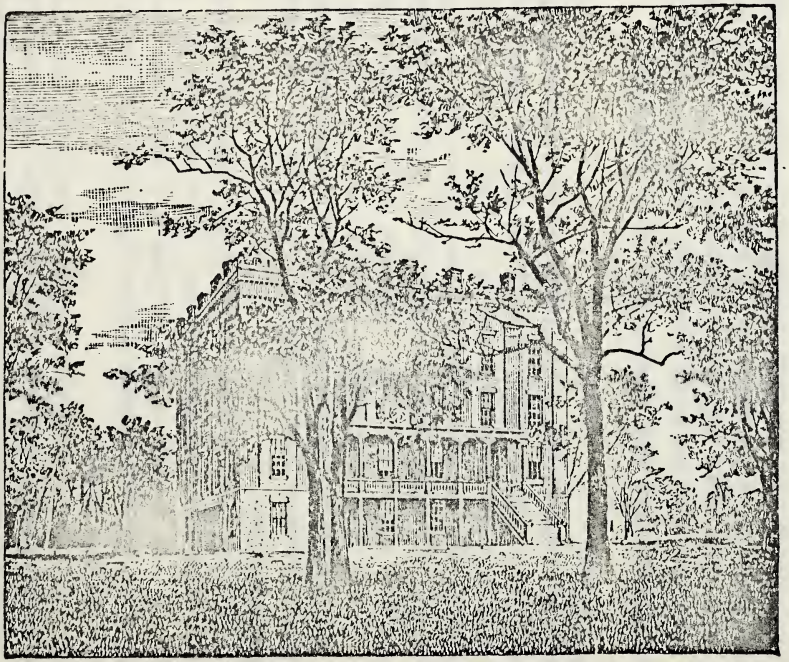
Well, my husband and I staid at my father's for a while. In the fall of 1825 or early winter, Milton Stringfield, a brother of Alfred and son of the parson who married us, had to go to Sangamon county on business, and he got my husband and myself to come to his house in the west end of Blooming Grove and stay with his wife while he went to Sangamon county. We went and staid there all winter.

BLOOMINGTON'S FIRST OWNER.

Toward spring my husband began working on his claim where Bloomington now is. Our cabin was built in March, 1826. It was a good large cabin sixteen feet square or sixteen by eighteen, I forget which. It stood between three hundred and four hundred yards west and a little south of where James Allin afterward built his double cabin and kept his store.

THE LINE OF THE TIMBER.

"Did the trees come up to your cabin?" Yes, rather scattering, but still there were trees clear up to and around our cabin. East of it the timber came up a little higher about as far up as Allin built his cabin, but no farther. West of the house there



MAJOR'S COLLEGE.

was timber and across the creek upon the high knoll the timber was heavy. Around to the northwest of the cabin, north of that high knoll, was a small, scattered grove or clump and directly north was the little grove standing out by itself, called the Celebrated Grove and the One Mile Grove. The latter name was given it because the distance between it and Blooming Grove was just one mile. Afterward Mr. Major settled in this grove and it was known as Major's Grove.

"How far did your husband's claim extend?" I do not know exactly. It was a claim of one hundred and sixty acres and I think our cabin was near the west end. I do not know how far north it run, but think it went north of the knoll where the new court house stands.

"How near were your neighbors?" We had no near neighbors. Mr. William H. Hodge lived two and one-half miles southeast of us and Milton Stringfield one mile and one-half west of us on the same side of the grove. This was in the spring of 1827. Between that and 1830, while we lived there, William Goodheart, John Canady and another William Evans settled near us. This Mr. Evans took the claim just east of us. He was no relation, however. James Toliver, John Maxwell and William Maxwell also came into the grove further down toward the old Hodge and Orendorff settlement.

RATTLESNAKES AND WOLVES FOR CLOSE NEIGHBORS.

I remember that the north side of the knoll northeast of our cabin was a little sandy and full of rattlesnakes. The Bloomington court house is on the spot now. I went on it often after my cows, and I hardly ever got back without two or three rattlesnakes hissing at me. Rattlesnakes and wolves were my nearest neighbors then and the ones I saw the most of.

There were a good many Indians around us in the early days—the Kickapoos and Delawares and some Pottawattamies. They came to the settlers to trade for corn, wheat, beans, salt, meat, etc. They were generally peaceful, but I was always afraid of them.

PIONEER CLOTHING.

People, men and women, wore a great deal of home-spun linsey-woolsey for women and a sort of jeans for the men. There

were some few who wore buckskin, however. I remember seeing Jonathan Thorp and Jesse Egnon coming to church at John Hendrix's house with buckskin pants and coonskin caps.

I was at the first Methodist class organized at John Hendrix's house after I was married. I was a member of that class. Parson James Stringfield organized it. I think in that class were John Hendrix and wife, John Dawson's wife and William Walker and wife, who were Presbyterians, but united, and I think also James Latta and wife and myself.

SELLING OUT TO BLOOMINGTON'S FOUNDER.

"How long did you live there?" We lived there till the spring of 1830, when we came on to the Mackinaw on the north side of the timber, west of where Lexington now is.

"Whom did you sell out to?" To James Allin, but what the price was I do not remember.

"Did you know he was buying it for a town site?" Yes, sir, that was the understanding. We came up on the Mackinaw on the 28th day of March, 1830, and lived in a tent for a while till another cabin was built, and we raised a good crop that year. We lived here six years, and then sold out in 1836 and went to Grundy county, Missouri, but I never lost my love for Blooming Grove. I loved its scenery and its people and often when here on visits would look back till the last tree was out of sight. We lived in Missouri till 1854, then moved to Iowa, and left there for Texas in 1857, where my husband died in 1856. I lived there some years and came back January 20, 1877, traveling alone.

The Pantagraph writer says of Mrs. Evans: "She is seventy-two years of age but very active for her years. She is small, well proportioned, and has evidently had a wiry, elastic constitution, capable of great endurance, though with no great amount of muscular power. Her eyes are blue and she wore a black cap over her silvery hair. Her complexion is light and her features regular and in her youthful days she must have been pretty. Her memory of the past is clear and sharp. She rarely hesitates over a date and never over a name, giving proper names in full without difficulty.

Mrs. Delilah Mullin-Evans died at Lone Grove, Llano Co., Texas, October 16, 1888.

MRS. NANCY BIGGS.

My sister taught the first school in the summer of 1825; the next was taught by Dr. Tribue, a Frenchman. He taught in a new log school house, just built, about a mile north from John Hendrix's house. That was in the winter of 1825-6 or '26-7, I am not sure which. William Hodge was the next teacher. Mr. Hodge let us study out loud. He was an old-fashioned teacher. A log was left out where the light came in and one writing desk was an inclined slab under it, where the light fell on our paper and we could see. The school house was about eighteen feet square. There were two doors, one on the north and one on the south. The east end was nearly all cut out about six feet high for the fire-place. The chimney was built up outside a frame foundation; was built up to the mantle and from there up where the draught began was of split sticks and clay. They dug down for clay and threw water on it and tramped it with horses or oxen in a pit, then they threw it on a table and mixed cut straw or prairie hay with it to make it stick. Then the builder stood inside the chimney and laid on a round of split sticks and then daubed mortar on both sides like plaster. It would stick pretty well, especially on the inside.

The scholars, boys and girls, thought it big sport to roll logs into the door and up to the fire-place. We used to roll back logs that were two or three feet through and six feet long for the fire-place was extra wide. A big back log of green elm would last a week or two and it was not an every day occurrence to have a spree rolling in a back log. The fire kept all right from night till morning and over Sunday.

At the schools taught by Dr. Tribue and William Hodge we studied reading, writing, spelling, and arithmetic. If we could not get goose quills to make pens of, we used turkey quills. We made our own ink by boiling water maple bark down, straining it off and adding a little sugar and copperas. It made splendid black ink.

On the fiftieth anniversary of the first sale of lots in the town of Bloomington, which was celebrated at Franklin Square, July 4, 1881, the Bloomington Daily Pantagraph published this very valuable article. The same issue of the paper printed several other very important historical papers, not as yet published elsewhere in our local records.

Subscription and Semi-Subscription Schools.

J. H. BURNHAM.

In all new countries, before the days of free schools, education kept pace with religion and travelled pretty much the same path. Churches were all built by private subscription and ministers were supported in the same manner. School houses were also built by private subscription and teachers were sustained in a similar way. Both teachers and preachers were largely assisted by boarding around among the school or church patrons.

It has been shown in another part of this book that previous to the passage of the Free School Law of 1855, the School Laws of the State of Illinois were very weak and inefficient. They were so weak that previous to 1837 the schools of McLean county were substantially all subscription schools and the school houses, like the churches, generally of logs, were constructed by volunteers without any aid from public money.

The old settlers tell us that public sentiment in central and southern Illinois would not sustain taxation for schools, they being placed on about the same plane as churches and it was not till the public began to secure some benefit from the sale of school lands that it was seen schools could be assisted in some degree from the interest on school funds or from the proceeds of a moderate taxation.

Previous to 1837 as before stated, all or nearly all of our schools were purely subscription schools, and the pioneers are deserving of great praise for their zeal and liberality in this direction.

Some of these pioneers came from states where no public aid was given to schools, while others, from New York and the New England States, were brought up from childhood in the atmosphere of free schools, and from this commingling of different peo-

ples, came, first, the purely subscription schools, then the schools sustained in part by subscription and in part by taxation, which was a semi-subscription school, and finally, after 1855, came our public free school system, since modified and improved into what we see today.

Later pioneers, especially in such states as Kansas and Nebraska, found the modern free school systems in operation and they could at once proceed to levy taxes on all taxable property, a privilege of which they were not slow to take advantage, more especially in the cases of non-resident land owners.

Readers of this history must bear in mind the difference between the past and the present as to the legal obstacles to a system of taxation for free schools and must give great credit to those who so nobly organized our early school system, as well as to those who were pioneers in the cause of religion.

Nearly all of the earliest schools in McLean county were of the subscription class, and it must be admitted very few of the teachers understood their business. There were no normal schools and no nearby colleges from which to obtain school teachers and most of those employed were poorly qualified.

The earliest report we have of the use of any public money for teachers is given from our county records as follows for 1837 and 1838:

Dr.—C. Thomas, School Commissioner,

To Town 24 N. R. 1 W., (Danvers township) Cr.

1837 Disbursements	Interest.
Jan. 7th—To J. W. Fell, ex-commissioner	$ 41 74
Jan. 26th—To Emeline Winslow for tuition	30 00
	$71 74
To commissions on loans for 1836	15 52
To commissions on loans for 1837	15 52
Apportioning $30.00	75
To interest	3 00
	$106 53
To Richard Rowell for tuition	107 63
Apportioning $107.63	2 69
	$110 32

Receipts and disbursements of Town 23 N., R. 2 E., for the year 1837.
(Bloomington township.)

1838	Disbursements continued.		
Jan. 25th	Paid on schedule to	L. Foster	$216 53
Jan. 27th	" " "	C. Wakefield	28 16
Jan. 25th	" " "	Maria Depew	37 06¼
Jan. 25th	" " "	S. A. Bartholomew	44 28
April 6th	" " "	Rebecca Fell	55 52
March 17th	" " "	L. Foster	3 40
July, 1837	Apportioning $364.78 @ 2½ per cent		9 11
Jan, 1838	Apportioning $384.95 @ 2½ per cent		9 62

These disbursements were made on teacher's schedules showing the attendance of pupils, and these teachers were also paid by parents or guardians more or less in addition as a subscription, and thus we enter on a period of semi-subscription or partially public and partially subscription schools. It was very common at one period, perhaps a little later than 1838 for the teachers to estimate that the public money would pay about one-half of their salaries, while the other half would come from the interest on the school funds.

It happens fortunately that a few interesting illustrations can be given of these subscription schools of the early days of McLean county, one of which was published a few weeks ago in the Leroy Journal, as follows:

"In overhauling his office to make repairs Dr. Keyes came across the following interesting schedule of a school taught by our late fellow citizen, James Lincoln, who, by the way, was a cousin of President Lincoln, and as it interests this community, we publish it in full. There are but seven now living out of that group of merry boys and girls who attended that school in the timber east of this city just sixty-three years ago. What a subject for reflection a perusal of the old document will afford!

The following is the schedule:

"'An abstract of the schedule of the school taught by James Lincoln in district No. 2, township 22 north, range 4 east, commencing on the 18th of April, 1839, and ending on the 23rd of August.

"'Milton Conaway, James W. Porter, Isaac N. Porter, *Robert J. Rutledge, Thomas Neal, Joseph Neal, Margaret Crumbaugh,

Sarah Crumbaugh, Mary Crumbaugh, Leonard Crumbaugh, *Thomas Crumbaugh, *Thompson Crumbaugh, Elizabeth Connell, Louisa Connell, Henry Connell, Mary Merryfield, Elizabeth Merryfield, Samuel Merryfield, *James Merryfield, Amos Merryfield, James Crumbaugh, Mary Hale, *Nancy Bishop, Louis Bishop, Susanna Clearwater, William Conaway, Aquilla Conaway, Providence Conaway, Eleanor Merryfield, *John Merryfield, Rachel Canada, *John Crumbaugh, Narcissus Crumbaugh, Rebecca Merryfield, Henry Griggs, Elliott Griggs, William Griggs, Sarah Rutledge, Elizabeth Neal, Katherine Conaway, Amos Conaway, James Conaway, John Dunlap, Eliza Dunlap, James Dunlap, Robert Ellis, Matilda Dickerson.

" 'We, the undersigned sub-trustees of school district No. 2 of school township No. 22 north, range four east, do certify that James Lincoln was employed as a teacher in the above named district, and that we have examined the schedule kept by him, as well as this abstract, and believe the same to be correct.

AQUILLA CONAWAY,
SAMUEL MERRYFIELD,
MALON BISHOP.

Through the courtesy of Mrs. Dr. A. E. Stewart we are able to give in full one of these quaint subscription papers for a school taught in the Stewart residence, at Randolph Grove in the present town of Randolph, in 1840. It is very remarkable, by the way, that the teacher, Dr. Vickers Fell, a brother of the late Jesse W. Fell, is still living in Washington, D. C.

RANDOLPH GROVE, November 30, 1840.

We, the undersigned, have this day entered into an agreement with V. Fell. And the condition of this obligation is such that the parties of the first part do agree to furnish the said party of the second part with board, fuel, etc., and the said party of the second part agrees, and does hereby agree to undertake the tuition of a certain number of scholars, not to exceed twenty, and the parties of the first part do also agree to pay the said party of the second part the sum of two dollars a scholar for the term of three months, payable at the expiration of the term. And if either party should

*Those marked with a star are the only ones now living.

become dissatisfied they agree to give the other party one week's notice.

School to be kept at Mr. Samuel Stewart's.

Samuel Stewart	4	pupils
Thomas Karr	2	"
Jessie Walden	2	"
Lydia Duffy	1	"
Wm. Walden	3	"
Gardner Randolph	2	"
Owen Evans	¾	"

You, the subscribers of this article, will please pay the amount of subscription to J. N. Stewart.

V. FELL.

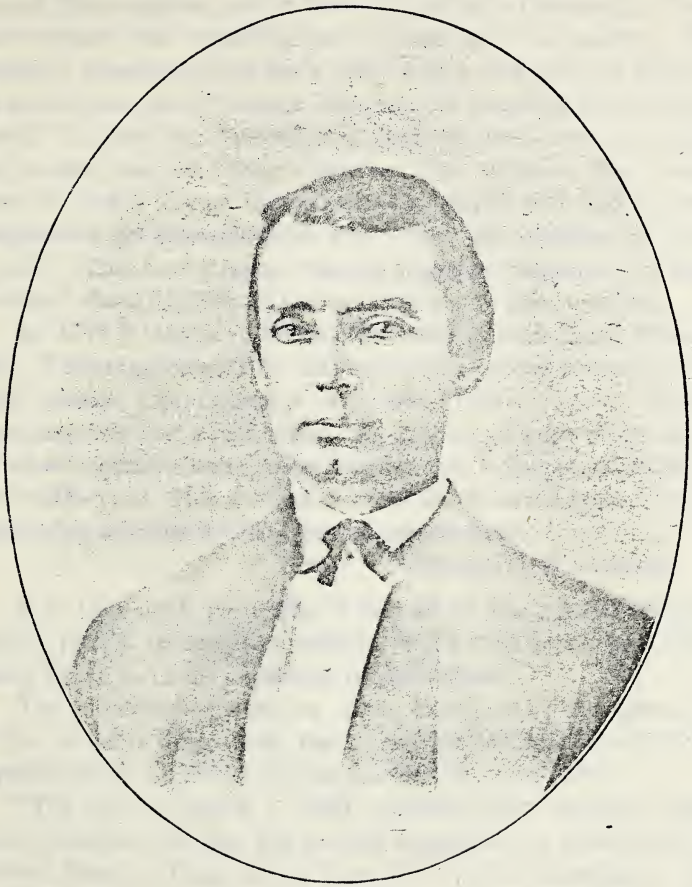
The amount of public money paid to Mr. Fell is nowhere to be found, but it was probably something.

Another of these country teachers, Mrs. Virginia F. Graves, of this city, one of the members of the McLean County Historical Society, is still living and she has very kindly furnished this communication:

BLOOMINGTON, ILL., January 10, 1902.

In these days of free schools with well paid teachers, free libraries, modern school houses, and all of the advantages of higher education, few realize what the early settlers had to overcome to secure some schools for the benefit of their children. Many came with scant means, entered their land, built their cabins, then commenced the struggle for their homes. Schools were few and far between. Generally, the teachers were of the same class, young men and women who had had a few advantages of a good education and were employed at a low price of a dollar or a dollar and a half a scholar and board 'round, which meant long walks and poor fare. These people could do no better for their teachers. I remember one man from the East who settled in Twin Grove saying, that to keep any correspondence with his friend it took almost his corn crop to pay his postage; twenty-five cents on a letter; corn ten cents a bushel. When we consider these conditions we can realize what a help the public money was to these settlers, little as it was. My first recollection of this help was in 1837 when my mother paid my first six months' tuition.

We were from Kentucky where my older brother and two sisters went to school, which was very expensive. The difference was so great that she was much surprised, and when this public money



DR. WILLIAM C. HOBBS.

was explained to her, young as I was, I remember how it was received. (It was to help very poor people.) Rev. Lemuel Foster who was the school master at the time explained this and received the money.

In 1845 I taught my first school in Blooming Grove, southwest of Bloomington, not far from the Catholic Cemetery. A regular contract was signed by the trustees and the teacher. One trustee, I remember well, was a great help to me, and did more for the school than most trustees. This was Dr. Johnson, later of Twin Grove. I think Mr. Kitchell and Isaac Mitchell were the others. The tuition was one dollar a scholar. The children lived remote from the cabin where the school was taught and had to cross sloughs and go through fields and it was not possible to "board 'round." This first attempt was not a success financially. I think I realized about $10.00 and the ague for about four months.

In 1847 I taught in Selma, this county, then called Pleasant Hill. The arrangements for this school were about the same as for other schools, two dollars a week and "board 'round," walking sometimes two and a half miles. By request of some of the mothers whose children were quite troublesome, I taught on Saturday part of the time. This was not counted in the sixty days. I taught three other schools, but they were private schools.

VIRGINIA F. GRAVES.

It is thus made clear that at first all of the schools were private or purely subscription schools, while at a later date public money began to be an important consideration.

The following explanation of the operation of the school law at this period is taken from the fourteenth biennial report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the year 1883:

"The law of March 1, 1833, provided that teachers should make schedules, and that the County Commissioner should pay the interest direct to them on the basis of the days' attendance. The days' attendance continued to be the basis of distribution until 1837, but this year provision was made for transferring the township funds to the township treasurer and so the distribution and payment of teachers was made by him and the trustees, and the basis was the number of white pupils under twenty, and the days

taught; but the share of any district which did not have a school, and any interest not needed to pay teachers within twenty days after it was received, were added to the principal of the fund. The law of 1845 provided for the distribution according to the number of white children in each district under twenty-one. In 1849 a change was made again to distributon on the number of days taught. From 1865 to 1872, the distribution was one-half on the days' attendance and one-half on the number of persons under twenty-one in each district. Since 1872 the whole has been distributed to the districts according to the number of persons under twenty-one."

As near as can be told from the latest report, 1854, the public money had become equal to about two-thirds of the total amount of the teachers' salaries, and our semi-subscription schools had now become almost entitled to be called free schools, as they were in fact, in a great part of the state within a year or two after the passage of the free school law of 1855, which authorized the raising of money by taxation.

I have been told that along about this period there was still another intermediate stage between the subscription and the free schools and this was managed by giving three months of entirely free school during the winter, while a subscription school was taught during the summer months.

In some towns a six-months' free school soon began to be given while in others it was quite a number of years before any attempt was made to hold both a winter and a summer term free of cost to the pupil.

In addition to what has been given to illustrate the period previous to our free school era, the period of subscription or semi-subscription schools, it should be mentioned that for a long time, mostly previous to 1860, it was customary in McLean county, as well as in other parts of the state, for the parents or guardians of the pupils to board the teacher. This was called "boarding around." The wages paid in many of these cases were wholly from the public monies, and the teacher's salaries were of course much lower on account of the free board, and the public money was eked out and made to furnish more months of schooling than could be the case were the board paid out of salaries.

It was usual for the teacher to board in the families sending children in proportion to the number of children in school. It was also quite common for well to do people to offer to keep the teachers part of the time, in order to relieve the poorer parents of a portion of this burden.

I do not happen to have any data at hand to prove what was done in this line in McLean county, but may be allowed to mention that I happen to be a living witness to this custom, having taught school in the winters of 1857 and 1858 in the town of Barrington, Cook county, Illinois, where I boarded around very pleasently among the parents and guardians of the pupils. My lot happened to be cast in pleasant places, and I shall always remember those winters as among the pleasantest months of my life.

It will thus be seen that there has been a gradual growth of public liberality towards the cause of education, beginning with the times when the schools were entirely supported by subscription, through a long period when they were in reality semi-public and semi-subscription schools, down to about 1855, when nearly or quite all of their cost proceeded from public taxation or interest on school funds, by which time the era of really free schools was in full operation, and it might be added that ever since the beginning of this free school era, the public's liberality towards the cause of education has been constantly expanding and growing.

The progress of our McLean county free schools from 1855 to the present time is more fully shown elsewhere in this volume through statistical tables and in other articles.

These tables as published and the several articles giving the history of the McLean County Schools should all be studied with care in order to arrive at a correct understanding of the great advance which has been made in the educational field since the first settlement of McLean county.

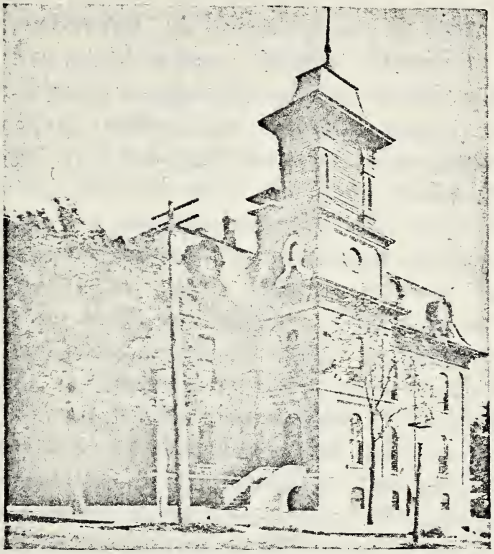
Education in McLean County.

BY RICHARD EDWARDS.*

Illinois became a state in the year 1818. On the 13th day of April of that year, the enabling act received the signature of the President of the United States, and on the 3d of December of the same year the constitution, which had been adopted by the convention at Kaskaskia, was approved by Congress. In the ordinances passed by Congress May 20, 1785, July 23, 1787, and June 20, 1788, it had been declared that the lot (section) number 16, in each township, or fractional part of a township, shall be given perpetually for the maintenance of public schools within the township. In the ordinance of 1787 it was declared that religion, morality and knowledge, being necessary for the happiness of mankind, schools and means of education should forever be encouraged in the territory. The enabling act, already referred to, required the appropriation of five per cent of the proceeds of the sale of public lands within the state, to the construction of roads and canals. But the Honorable Nathaniel Pope, delegate in Congress from Illinois territory at that time, secured an amendment which required that three-fifths of this five per cent should be appropriated by the legislature of the new state, for the encouragement of learning, of which one-sixth was to be exclusively bestowed upon a college or university.

In 1818 the region now included in McLean county was hardly considered a part of the civilized world. It was included within the counties of Bond and Crawford, which seems to have covered a large part of what is now Illinois. Before the spring of 1822 not a single white person had made a settlement within the boundaries of the present McLean county. In the language of another, "for thousands of years the country had belonged to the Indians, the wolves, the deer and the rattlesnakes." The settlers

*President State Normal University of Illinois 1862 to 1876; State Superintendent of Public Instruction of Illinois, January 10, 1887, to January 12, 1891.



OLD HIGH SCHOOL, NOW EDWARDS SCHOOL, BLOOMINGTON.

Corner Monroe and Oak Streets.

who began coming in 1822 found it necessary, therefore, to provide for their own wants, to take care of their families, and to preserve by their own efforts a reasonable degree of social order.

Of course, the question of the right training of children was an important one. But there was no legislative enactment by which they could be furnished with an education. This continued to be substantially the case until the year 1855, when the present school law went into effect. A law was passed in 1825, nominally establishing a free school system. Besides authorizing a tax for the support of schools, it appropriated two dollars out of every one hundred dollars received into the state treasury to be distributed to those who had paid taxes or subscriptions for the support of schools. State revenues were very small at that time, so that even if the law had been executed, only about $1,000 per year would have been distributed by it. But it was not executed. It remained a dead letter, and in 1829 the provision relating to distribution of state funds was repealed. The state at this time was financially embarrassed, and the money derived from the sale of seminary lands was borrowed by it for payment of current expenses. Many townships also were reckless in disposing of the sixteenth sections, some of them being sold for seventy cents per acre. It is charged that in the disposal of the lands, the public interest was often sacrificed for private ends. But the probability is that in most cases the lands were sold at low prices because the officers did not foresee the coming increase in values. Whatever adjustments were made for schools before the year 1855, were therefore made by the united action of those concerned and the expense was mainly paid from their own pockets. The only help from a public source was derived from the sale of school lands. Taxing the people for the support of schools was not in most localities approved by the public sentiment. Most of the early settlers in Illinois had come from states in which public schools were not maintained. It is for these reasons greatly to the credit of these early settlers that they attended to this matter, and that considering the circumstances, the work of education was so well performed. It is undoubtedly fair to infer that the congressional and legislative enactments, already mentioned, may have influenced the public sentiment and stimulated the people to put forth the commendable exertions of which we read. But something must

also be credited to the character of the settlers themselves. They must have had in their own minds a strong conviction of the worth of education. They must have felt keenly the need of training their children in such way as rightly to prepare them for life.

McLean county was organized in 1830. As originally created, it contained fifty-six townships, being in extent forty-two by forty-eight miles. The territory from which it was formed belonged at that time to Tazewell and Vermilion counties. At the time of its organization the county was much larger than it is now. In 1837 Livingston county was created, and nine and a half townships were taken from the northeastern corner of McLean. In 1839 DeWitt county was formed, taking four and a half townships from the south end of McLean. And in 1841 Woodford county took about nine townships from the northwest corner, leaving McLean county in its present form, and still leaving it the largest county in the state.

SCHOOLS IN BLOOMINGTON.

The first school opened in what is now McLean county began May 1, 1825. It was taught in the house of John W. Dawson in Blooming Grove. It was a subscription school. Each pupil was to pay two and a half dollars for a term of four months. The teacher was Miss Delilah Mullin, afterwards Mrs. William Evans. She continued to teach for some time after her marriage, but a fuller account of her and her school will be found in another part of this history. It is worth noting, however, that Mr. Dawson manifested his public spirit by first having the school in a house which he had built for himself, and afterwards in building a school house at his own expense. It was by such acts as these that the Blooming Grove people were saved from lapsing into barbarism.*

About the year 1826 we find a record of a school kept by Mr. W. H. Hodge, which was attended by Mr. O. H. P. Orendorff. "At that time," it is said, "books were very scarce in this region, and the only book that young Orendorff could find for use in the school was an old-fashioned almanac." Mr. Hodge's school house had been built by subscription in the Orendorff neighborhood, and for many years his wages were paid partly by subscription. The income from the sale of public lands was not sufficient for the

*Pantagraph, July 4, 1861.

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support of a school. After teaching in Blooming Grove several winters, Mr. Hodge opened a school in Bloomington village in 1831. But here he was soon succeeded by Mr. A. C. Washburn. For years after this the schools were supported both by public funds and by subscriptions. The public fund formed the basis of the school money, and the balance was made up by subscriptions from persons who had the good of the cause at heart.* Some schools were wholly free, but it would seem that the larger number depended upon the liberality of the people and upon tuition fees. This continued to be the condition of things until the new law of 1855 went into effect, when the public schools began to be supported by taxation. In 1834 Mr. L. Foster established a school which seems to have outranked the others in the public estimation. It was sometimes called the high school and sometimes the seminary. Mr. Foster built a school house of his own, and is entitled to much credit for the efficient manner in which he conducted this school of comparatively high grade. The house still stands on Taylor street. Mr. Foster was followed in 1847 by the Rev. George W. Minier, and he was succeeded by Dr. Finley of Jacksonville. Mr. Minier has been well known for many years in central Illinois as an earnest and progressive man. He has been

*The aid derived by the early schools in McLean County from the interest received from the proceeds of sale of the 16 section is shown by the entries on the books of the Commissioner of Schools of this county, for instance the January 26, 1837 commissioner paid Emeline Winslow for tuition $30, and July 1 Richard Rowell $107.63. Town 24, N. R, 1 W. Danvers township January 9, 1838, O. Wiggins on schedule $74.64; T. 22, N. R. 1 E. Funks Grove, and in 1838 he paid on schedules in Bloomington township, T.23, N. R. 2 E.

January	25, L. Foster	$216 53
"	27, C. Wakefield	28 16
"	25, Maria Depew	27 06¼
"	25, S. A. Bartholomew	44 28
April	6, Rebecca Fell	55 52
March	17, L. Foster	3 40
Total from school fund in Bloomington township paid out that year		$385 55¼

The assets of the several townships were turned over to the respective township treasurers about 1840. We have not been able to ascertain the amounts received after that date. E. M. P., Secy.

interested in a variety of important enterprises, among others in the preservation of our forests. In 1852 Prof. Daniel Wilkins appears to have taken control of this school, and for the purpose of giving it greater importance organized a board of trustees and named the school "The Central Illinois Female Seminary." For some years the institution occupied a prominent position and attracted many young ladies from various parts of the state as students.

In 1856 the Rev. Robert Conover established his Bloomington Female Seminary. It was a Presbyterian institution, and for a long time enjoyed a deservedly high reputation in this part of the state. It was located upon Grove street in a building owned by Mr. Conover which is still standing and occupied as a residence. It was a very worthy institution and did much in the way of elevating the standard of education. It is said to have often contained ninety students, and during the sixteen years of its existence gave instruction to more than one thousand persons. It was really worthy of continuance as a school, but the Bloomington high school, the State Normal University, the Wesleyan University had in the meantime been established, and its pupils seem to have been drawn into other channels.

In 1856, on the street now known as Seminary avenue, Elder William T. Major erected what in those days was considered a fine building for a female seminary. For some time it continued as a female college substantially under his own management, but afterwards with the liberality characteristic of the man, he presented the whole building and its fine grounds to the Christian Church, on the sole condition of its being managed as a college. There was an attempt to carry out the instructions of Mr. Major in this respect, but on account of the rapid increase of public educational institutions, the attendance at the school was small. After some years of unsuccessful effort, the whole property reverted to Mr. Major or his heirs. For some time the building was used as a water cure establishment. Some years since it came into the possession of the Wesleyan University.

Several other private schools have been started and maintained in Bloomington, which, however, we have not space to notice. Among these may be mentioned the schools maintained

SHERIDAN SCHOOL BUILDING.
Corner Walnut and Livingston Sts.

under the direction of the Catholic Church. These will be noticed in another place. There have also been several schools maintained by Germans in which the exercises have been conducted in their language.

It will be remembered that the present school law went into effect in the year 1855. For some years before this the public schools had been increasing in number and in financial resources. But until the year 1857 their power and usefulness in Bloomington were limited. In that year there were five different school districts within the city limits, containing about three hundred pupils. But it is thought that the schools maintained therein were not very efficient. But on the 8th day of April, 1857, these districts were all consolidated, and put under the control of the new Board of Education. At once, a new life was imparted to them, and from that day they have been making very satisfactory progress. The first charter for establishing and regulating a system of public schools in the city of Bloomington was granted by the legislature of the state February 22, 1857. It called for a biennial election in the city by the qualified electors of a Board of Education to consist of seven members. The first election was to be held on the first Monday in April, 1857. At this election the following named gentlemen were declared by the city council to constitute the first Board of Education: C. P. Merriman, R. O. Warriner, O. T. Reeves, E. R. Roe, Eliel Barber, Samuel Gallagher and Henry Richardson. The need of new school houses was from the very first a matter of consideration by the board, and at their meeting held April 11, 1857, it was voted "to build four new school houses in different parts of the city, for the accommodation of schools, so soon as funds sufficient can be obtained."

The first estimate of the board to the city council called for $10,000, with which to erect new school buildings and $2,000 in addition to the general school fund to defray the expenses of maintaining the schools of the city. As a result of the request for this estimate, the following communication was sent to the board by the council:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education having made a report to this council, demanding a levy of a five-mill tax for school pur-

poses, and it being the opinion of this council that said levy would be a burdensome and oppressive tax upon the people at the present time; therefore,

Resolved, That it is our bounden duty to respectfully decline an order for said levy.

As a result of this, the Board of Education employed Abraham Lincoln to take the necessary steps to procure from the Circuit Court a writ of mandamus to compel the council to levy the tax as required of them by section eight of the school law. The whole matter seems to have been amicably settled, however, by the board presenting a memorial to the council requesting them to reconsider the action.

In the year 1858, the first permanent school building was completed. It was called for several years the high school building, but is now known as the Emerson school. It is in the fourth ward, and its cost was a little more than $6,000. It was thought to be a fine structure for the times, though enlarged considerably in 1870. The high school started in 1857, and was taught for the first year in Wilkin's Seminary by J. A. Johnson. In 1858, it occupied the new building, and was taught by E. P. Clark. Next year it was under the charge of H. M. Kellogg who was killed in 1864 in one of the Vicksburg battles at which time he was captain in a company of the Thirty-third Regiment, Illinois Volunteers. The progress of the high school has always been onward and upward until the present time. For some years, it occupied the building at the corner of Monroe and Oak streets, now known as the Edwards school. The first class was graduated in 1864, and consisted of two members, while the class of 1877 contained more than thirty. An act of the legislature, accepted by vote of the people in 1865, and another act passed in 1866, greatly strengthened the Board of Education, and increased the public interest.

The total enrollment of pupils in the public school in the year 1878 was 3,395. The number of children in the whole city in that year under the age of twenty-one years was 7,187. The number of teachers in the public schools was sixty-three. The total amount of money disbursed for schools for the year ending April 1, 1879, was $65,314. The cost of the school buildings, ap-

paratus, furniture and grounds had been more than $228,000, and were worth probably at that time a little more than the outstanding school debt which was about $100,000. The Board of Education in 1879 consisted of Jacob Jacoby, A. E. Stevenson, F. M. Funk, E. H. Rood, T. J. Bunn, J. H. Rowell and Miss Georgiana Trotter. Miss Sarah E. Raymond was superintendent. Previous to that the superintendents had been D. Wilkins, 1857 to 1859; Gilbert Thayer, 1859; Ira J. Bloomfield, 1860; no superintendent in 1861; C. P. Merriman, 1862; J. H. Burnham, 1863; John Monroe, 1864; John F. Gowdy, 1865 to 1867; A. H. Thompson, 1867 to 1868; S. M. Etter, 1868 to 1872; S. D. Gaylord, 1872 to 1874; Miss Sarah E. Raymond, 1874. It is claimed that Miss Georgiana Trotter was one of the first ladies in the state to serve as a member of a Board of Education, and that Miss Sarah Raymond was also one of the first to serve as city superintendent of schools. Both these ladies made excellent records in their respective positions. At this time, 1878, in the first, third, fourth and fifth wards there were school buildings, then considered large and convenient; besides the high school at the corner of Monroe and Oak streets.

In the same year, 1878, according to the record of the county superintendent, there was a total of 361 pupils enrolled in the public schools of the townships outside of the city of Bloomington. Of children of school age under twenty-one years old there were 761. The total expenditures for schools in the rural districts were $4,406 per annum. The township fund amounted to $6,264. There were nine school districts and the school houses were valued at $10,000. Thomas J. Bunn was township school treasurer.

SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTY OUTSIDE OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON.

We are told that a school was established in Stout's Grove early in the thirties. Jonathan Maxon is mentioned as one of the pupils. The teacher was Hosea Stout, who was the nephew of Ephriam Stout, the founder of the settlement. The school was attended by thirty or forty children, some of whom came great distances and boarded with the farmers near by.

In the year 1831 Mr. A. C. Washburn established a school in Blooming Grove. The tuition fees were two dollars per quarter.

The school house was a very primitive and ill constructed building. In the spring of 1834 Mr. Washburn taught a school at Buckles Grove, near Leroy.*

We are told that Mr. Washburn's was at first a loud school, so called, but that after some time it was changed into something like modern schools in this respect. The statement is made in regard to several of the early schools in McLean county that their pupils were in the habit of studying their lessons by reading them aloud in their seats. Of course, this custum was not limited to McLean county. It prevailed, more or less, over the entire United States as well as in England and other European countries. Of course, the custom appears to one living in our days as very absurd. A little thought, however, will show us that there may have been some shade of reason at the basis of it. The idea of education which prevailed in former times was that it consisted in acquiring ideas through the medium of words only. It seemed, therefore, to these early teachers that the best thing that could be done with children in school was to plunge them into a flood of words. Of course, at first the full meaning of the words might not be grasped But, as it was claimed, familiarity with the words must produce in the end familiarity with the ideas which they represented. And there is certainly some truth in this. One of the most thoughtful and philosophic teachers in the early normal schools of the United States was accustomed to say that when he was a boy of eight or nine years of age he was required to commit to memory Butler's Analogy. He acknowledged that the acquisition of the words was accompanied by very little meaning to him at that early age, but the words remained in his memory, and years afterwards, as his field of knowledge enlarged, the significance of what he had

*The following instances of loud schools are given in the Good Old Times in McLean County. Shelton Smith of Lexington says: "His first teacher was an Irishman who made the scholars study at the top of their voices. As they shouted their lessons he stood in the middle of the floor slapping his hands and saying 'Whoop! boys, I'll take you through arith *matic* in four weeks,'" p. 690. "Jonathan Warlow attended at Dry Grove a school taught by Milton Williams, "the scholars all studied aloud and shouted heir lessons, while the schoolmaster read his paper and smoked his pipe by the fire," p. 479. We are informed that in some private school in McLean County the "loud school" system was in vogue as late as 1870. E. M. P.

learned was made apparent to him, and the words committed to memory many years before he found exceedingly helpful. By their assistance he was enabled to master ideas more readily than he otherwise could have done. In this explanation this gentleman was showing the best side of that practice. He was not recommending it for universal use.

Now, the teacher of children in the early times to which we are referring knew how liable they are to allow their thoughts to wander. He knew that the child is always susceptible to any outward circumstance that may appeal to him. He argued, therefore, that the great necessity is to keep the child's thoughts upon a given subject continuously, and he assumed that if the pupils in a school could be kept repeating the words of a lesson aloud, it would be a great help in fixing their thought upon whatever the words signify.

In modern pedagogy, there are more effective ways than this of accomplishing this very desirable result. But is it not reasonable to suppose that the teacher's opinions may have been influenced by some such consideration?

School Lands of McLean County
AND SCHOOL FUNDS.

BY EZRA M. PRINCE.

The "Fathers of the Republic," both north and south, were profoundly impressed with the importance of the education of the people. This is especially manifest in all the legislation concerning the Northwest Territory. The ordinance of 1787, section 3, provided that "Religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to the good government and happiness of mankind, schools, the means of education, shall be encouraged." In this encouragement the United States government has borne an honorable part.

Donations by the United States to the States for Educational Purposes.

SIXTEENTH SECTION.

1. This is first in importance as well as in point of time. The act of the Continental Congress of May 20, 1785, for ascertaining the method of disposing of the public lands in the western territory provided for the division of the territory into townships, each township six miles square, and subdividing that into thirty-six equal lots one mile square numbered from 1 to 36 and that there should be reserved lot 16 of every township for the maintainance of public schools. This reservation of lot 16 or section 16, as it was first termed in the act of May 18, 1796, has been made in all subsequent acts providing for the sale of all public land and in all states admitted and territories organized since 1848 the thirty-sixth section has also been reserved for this purpose. The whole number of acres donated to Illinois by the grant of the sixteenth section was 985,066.

2. Seminary Land Grant.

In 1804 in an act establishing land offices at Detroit, Vincennes and Kaskaskia, the United States gave to Illinois a township of land for the foundation and support of a "Seminary of Learning." The township selected being a very poor location, by an act of congress March, 1831,

that selection was vacated and the state was authorized to select another township or a quantity equal thereto in tracts not less than a quarter of a section and by the act of April 18, 1818, a second township was offered and accepted by the state. Under these acts, 46,080 acres were selected. In 1829 the state adopted the policy of selling the seminary lands and itself borrowing the money. Under this policy 43,200 acres of this grant were sold for $59,832, the remaining four and one-half sections was in 1861 donated to the Illinois Agricultural College at Irvington, Washington county, and sold for $58,000, but the proceeds were so grossly mismanaged that only $9,000 were saved of it.

3. Constitutional Compact of 1818.

The act of congress of April 18, 1818, enabling the people of Illinois to form a constitution offered the constitutional convention to be called under that act the following proposals, which if accepted by the convention would be obligatory upon the United States and the state.

1. Section 16 of every township should be granted to the state for the use of the inhabitants of such township for the use of the schools. 2. Five per cent of the net proceeds of the sale of the public land from and after January 1, 1819, should be reserved for the purposes following, viz: Two-fifths for making roads leading to this state and the balance for the encouragement of learning in the state of which one-sixth part should be exclusively bestowed on a college or university and that thirty-six sections or one entire township with a like amount heretofore reserved for the use of a seminary of learning. These provisions were accepted by the constitutional convention August 26, 1818. Under this provision the state received under the "college or university" provision $156,613.

4. Surplus Revenue Distribution.

Under the tariffs of John Quincy Adams' and Jackson's administrations, the revenues of the United States exceeded the demands of the government for its support. After the payment of all its debts, this surplus had in 1836 grown to about forty millions of dollars. This it was proposed to donate to the states. This scheme was favored by Mr. Calhoun because he thought with the proceeds coming to South Carolina she could build railroads and canals and thereby, as he thought, regain her relative rank in wealth and population with the northern states which she was losing. It was favored by Clay and the protectionists because it would enable them to retain the high tariff; and few of the representatives had the courage on the eve of a presidential election to oppose a measure that would give money to their own state. After some squabbling over the constitutionality of giving it to the states, July 4, 1837, a bill was passed to deposit all the surplus over five millions with the treasurers of the state in proportion to their representation in congress. No state should be called upon to repay more than $10,000 a month and none to pay more than its pro rata with any other state, so that New York, which received over four millions, could not be required to pay over $10,000, and Illinois, which received $477,919.14, could not be asked to

pay more than a little over $1,000 per month. As it was to be paid according to representation in congress, the least populous state received out of proportion to their population: thus Arkansas, with a population of about 50,000, one-thirtieth of the population of Pennsylvania, received one-tenth as much as that state.

The first installment of this surplus revenue was paid January 1, 1837, at which time there was a little over thirty-seven millions to be divided. Three payments were made, amounting in all to $28,101,644.91. But the great commercial crisis of 1837 began in March and by the time the fourth installment became due, the treasury of the United States was bankrupt. President Van Buren called an extra session of congress, which postponed the payment of the fourth installment, which was never paid. This deposit was intended as a gift and has so been treated by the general government as well as the states, though it is still borne on the treasurer's report as cash on hand.

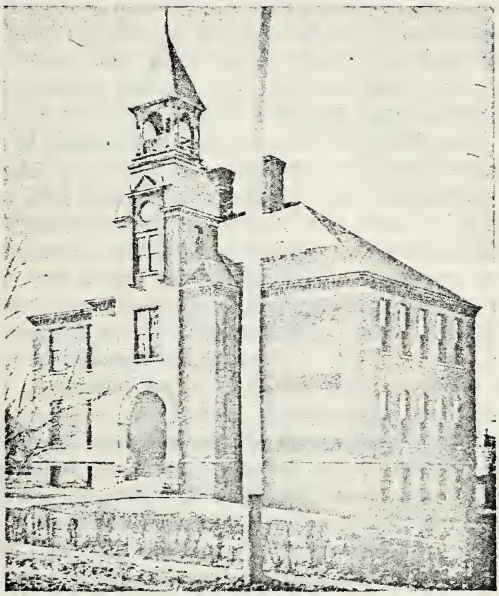
In this most vicious legislation, federalist, whig and democrat united. Calhoun, Clay and Jackson all in the same boat. "In one way or another these funds were squandered by all the states or worse than squandered, since they serve corruption and abuse." Sumner's Life of Jackson, 385. Illinois squandered hers in wasteful internal improvement schemes, but $335,592.32 was declared a part of the school fund of the state, which as the state had used for other purposes it agreed to pay interest on for the support of the public schools of the state.

5. Swamp Lands.

By an act of congress September 28, 1850, "the whole of the swamp and overflowed lands made unfit thereby for cultivation and remaining unsold on and after the 28th day of September, 1850, are granted and belong to the several states respectively in which said lands are situated." The secretary of the interior was directed to issue patents to the respective states to these lands. "The proceeds of such lands when from sales or from direct appropriation in kind shall be applied exclusively as far as needed for the reclaiming such lands by means of levees or drains."

March 2, 1855, by act of congress, it was provided that upon proof that any lands purchased from the United States were "swamp lands" prior to March 2, 1855, the purchase money should be paid to the state and where it had been entered by script the state snould have the right to locate a like quantity at $1.25 per acre.

By an act of the legislature of Illinois, June 22, 1852, these same swamp lands are granted to the counties respectively in which the same may be situated for the purpose of constructing the necessary levees and drains to reclaim the same and the balance of such lands if any there be after the same are reclaimed as aforesaid shall be distributed in each county equally among the townships thereof for the purposes of education or the same may be applied to the construction of roads and bridges and such other purposes as may be deemed expedient by tne court or county judge hereinafter mentioned desiring so to apply; that these swamp lands should be under the care of the county courts of the counties in which



GERMAN LUTHERAN PAROCHIAL SCHOOL,
BLOOMINGTON.

the land was situated and that the county courts should cause said lands to be drained by the construction of proper levees and drains necessary to reclaim the same.

By a ruling of the commissioner of the general land office land was deemed unfit for cultivation and consequently swamp lands when they were too wet to permit the planting, growing and harvesting of crops without artificial embankments and the counties were given the option to take the original field notes of the government surveys to determine what were swamp lands or make surveys themselves and furnish the department the proper proof of the swamp lands—McLean county chose the latter course. For this county, James T. Swartz, the county surveyor, surveyed and furnished the proof. He made a very liberal allowance under which McLean county received title to 28793.45 acres. The Illinois Central land grant had precedence of this grant and no swamp lands could be selected within six miles of its right of way. Any person desiring to enter any of these lands could contest before the land office that they were rightfully swamp lands. Some of these lands were as dry as any in the county. A few tracts of 160 acres each were successfully contested. Mr. Meharry, of Indiana, gave notice to contest 8,000 acres. Peter Folsom surveyed each forty of the 8,000 acres and found about one-half of it was swamp lands. Mr. Meharry gave notice to take in Indiana the deposition of an Indiana surveyor—on Mr. Folsom and Judge A. J. Merriman, the agents for this county appearing at the time and place specified for taking the deposition they found that as the witness wanted to go to Texas the accommodating justice had taken the deposition the day before and the witness had departed for the Lone Star State. This vitiated the deposition and Mr. Meharry dismissed his contest.

Amasa J. Merriman, county judge of McLean county, was appointed the agent of the county to dispose of these lands and had entire charge of them, the selling conveying and the distributing of the funds until they were all disposed of, the money collected and distributed, which duties he performed to the complete satisfaction of the county. The county being entitled to a considerable sum of money under the act of March 2, 1855, Mr. Almon B. Ives, who had had a long experience in land litigation and especially before the general and local land offices, and Mr. Peter Folsom, for many years the principal surveyor in the county, were appointed by the county to prosecute the said claims on commission of twenty per cent. They secured from the United States $13,800 and paid over to the county $11,040. The county received from this swamp land grant 28,793.45 acres and it received from it over and above the expenses connected therewith the sum of $125,881, $70,000 of which ($50,000 by resolution of the county commissioners, March 31, 1857,) was donated to the Normal University and secured its location at Normal. The balance, $57,716.89, was distributed to the several townships of the county according to the geographical surveys as a part of their loanable funds.

It is impossible to reconcile this disposition of the McLean county "swamp lands" with the act of congress donating the lands to the state

which provided that "the proceeds of such lands, whether from sales or direct appropriation in kind, shall be applied exclusively as far as necessary to the reclaiming said lands by means of levees or drains" or the act of the legislature granting them to the counties for the "purpose of constructing the necessary levees and drains to reclaim the same." But no one seriously questioned the propriety of this disposition and no one seriously questioned its legality except the board of education which made the location at Normal upon condition that the full amount of the McLean county subscription of $70,000 should be legally guaranteed within sixty days, in default of which the location was to be made at Peoria; this guarantee was furnished and the location was secured.

These swamp lands under the improved system of drainage and tiling adopted in recent years have become the most valuable farm lands in the county.

6. University of Illinois Fund.

July 2, 1862, the United States gave to the several states public lands to provide "colleges for the benefit of agricultural and the mechanic arts." under which act Illinois received 480,000 acres, which went to the Industrial University, now University of Illinois, at Champaign. As to this fund, I quote from a letter from W. L. Pillsbury, registrar of the university, dated August 4, 1900.

FREE SCHOOLS—1825.

"The act of the legislature of Illinois, January 1, 1825, provided for a common school system in each county of the state open and free to every class of white citizens between five and twelve years of age with authority to the legal voters of the respective school districts to levy a tax payable "either in cash or good merchantable produce at cash prices," not exceeding one-half per cent per annum nor amounting to more than $10 per annum to any one person. But this statute was thirty years ahead of time and the essential parts of it were repealed in 1829.

"By act of 1862 congress gave us landscript for 30,000 acres of land for each member of congress. Our delegation in congress at that time numbered sixteen, so the state received script for 480,000 acres. All of this script, except that for 25,000 acres, were sold for about $319,000. The lands located with the other 25,000 acres of script have been sold in part, and the endowment funds from this source stands now at just a little more than $500,000. We have some outstanding land contracts, and also have some 8,000 acres of unsold land. The fund will, probably, ultimately exceed a little $600,000."

LAWS FOR THE SALE OF THE SIXTEENTH SECTION.

1. Act of January 22, 1829.

This act provided for the appointment in each county by the county commissioners of a commissioner or agent who was required on a petition of nine-tenths of the freeholders and householders of the township to make public sale of the sixteenth section for cash to the highest bidder

and also provided for the appointment of school trustees in each township whose duty it was upon the filing of the petition to divide the school section into lots for sale of not over eighty acres and to appraise them at their value, but at not less than $1.25 per acre, and that the section should not be sold in larger lots than those into which the trustees had divided it and for not less than the appraisement.

2. Act of February 15, 1831.

This act reduced the number of petitioners required from nine-tenths to three-fourths of the legal voters in the township and also provided that the school section should not be sold in any township unless the township had at least fifty white inhabitants.

3. Act of May 1, 1833.

This act provided the sixteenth section might be sold without appraisement by the school trustees.

4. Act of June 1, 1833.

This act provided that where the petition asked for it the sale should be on a credit of one, two and three years on the purchaser giving his note for the purchase money bearing twelve per cent interest with good personal security and a mortgage on the premises purchased. For instance, the first school section sold in this county was that in Danvers township. It was all loaned to the purchasers, not even the costs of the sale being paid out of the purchase money but out of the subsequently accruing interest on the purchase money.

5. Act of July 1, 1841.

This act re-enacted substantially the provision of the law of 1829 as to appraisement and it also provided on a petition of two-thirds of the white male inhabitants of the township over twenty-one years of age for a sale to the highest bidder for cash with the privilege to each purchaser to borrow the amount of his bid for not less than one year nor more than five years on giving security as in other loans of school funds which was at that time twelve per cent interest payable half yearly in advance and for all sums not exceeding $100 loaned for one year two responsible securities, and for all sums over $100 or for more than one year a mortgage on real estate unencumbered of double the value loaned.

6. Act of Congress February 15, 1842.

The original donation of the sixteenth section did not expressly authorize the sale of the sixteenth section and some doubt having arisen as to the legality of the sales of the school lands, on petition of the state this act confirmed the previous sales and authorized future sales.

7. Revised Statutes of 1845.

The revised statutes of 1845 reduced the rate of interest on loans of school funds from twelve to eight per cent and provided that the school commissioner who had been heretofore appointed by the county commissioners should be elected and should be ex-officio superintendent of common schools in his county and should as often as practicable visit all the townships in his county and inquire into the condition and manner of conducting of schools in the same and also examine any person proposing

to teach a common school in any township in his county touching his or her qualifications properly to teach orthography, reading in English, penmanship, English grammar, modern geography and history of the United States, and give certificates to those qualified. They were also directed to turn over to the school trustees the school funds in their hands.

8. Act of February 15, 1855.

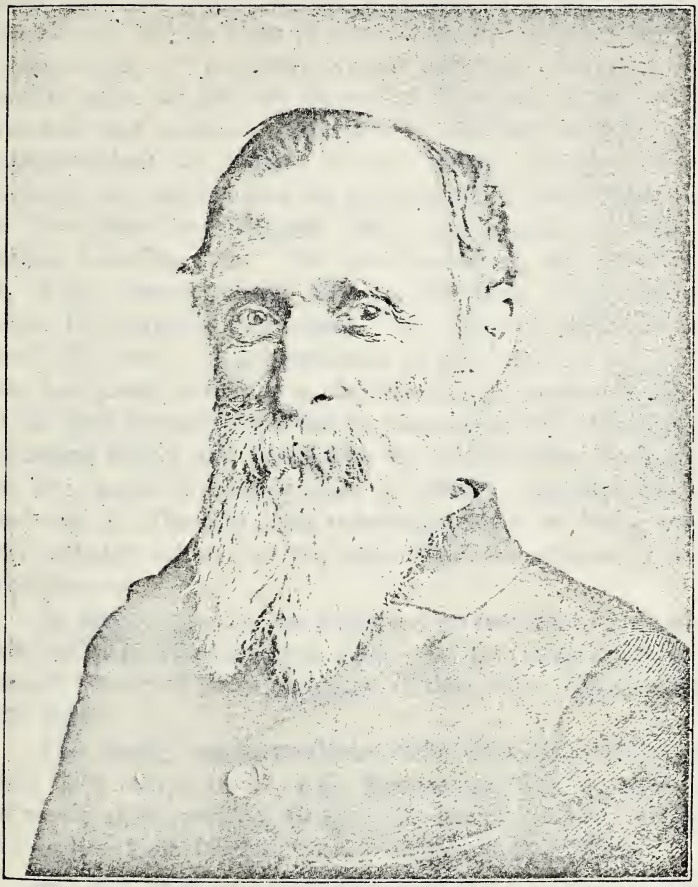
This act established the present public school system in this state and did not change in any material manner the sale of the school lands, requiring a petition of two-thirds of the legal voters of the township, appraisement, sale on credit for not less than the appraisement.

Sales of the school lands, 16th section, of McLean county, in the order of their sales:

TOWN	T'SH'P.	RANGE	ACRES	DATE OF SALE	AMOUNT OF SALE	PER ACRE
Danvers	24	1 W	640	27 Sept., 1833	$ 834 80	$ 1 30
Bloomington	23	2 E	640	13 March, 1834	4,603 27	7 19
Funk's Grove	22	1 E	640	20 June, 1834-36	1,432 20	2 23
	21	1 E	640	24 Oct., 1834	1,150 35	1 79
Randolph	22	2 E	640	24 Sept., 1834-36	800 00	1 25
Old Town	23	3 E	640	12 Nov., 1836	1,209 30	1 88
White Oak	25	1 E	640	28 Nov., 1836-38	1,624 85	2 53
Empire	22	4 E	640	22 April, 1837	4,187 50	6 54
Lexington	25	4 E	640	28 June, 1837-39	1,437 50	2 24
Money Creek	25	3 E	640	3 Oct., 1846-48-49-50	1,080 00	1 68
Dale	23	1 E	640	26 May, 1848-49-50	830 00	1 29
Hudson	25	2 E	640	24 June, 1848-49-50	1,540 00	2 42
Dry Grove	24	1 E	640	30 Sept., 1848-49	840 00	1 31
Towanda	24	3 E	645.3	29 Sept., 1849-50	852 22	1 32
Cheney's Grove	23	6 E	643.31	9 March, 1850-51	798 00	1 22
Downs	22	3 E	645.78	18 May, 1850	975 71	1 51
Dawson	23	4 E	630.55	1 July, 1851	1,891 65	3 00
Allin	23	1 W	637.8	3 Nov., 1851	1,367 26	2 14
Normal	24	2 E	621.13	6 Nov., 1852-53	5,992 66	9 64
Martin	24	5 E	641.54	14 July, 1853	1,291 06	2 01
Mt. Hope	22	1 W	646.54	11 Aug., 1853	2,414 52	3 73
Lawndale	25	5 E	643.28	29 Sept., 1853	1,641 34	2 55
Arrowsmith	23	5 E	643.13	10 April, 1854-55-56	2,987 38	4 64
Gridley	26	3 E	641.87	8 Feb., 1855	3,283 86	5 10
Blue Mound	24	4 E	641.39	12 July, 1855	4,753 :3	7 41
Belleflower	22	6 E	640	26 July, 1857	4,320 00	6 75
Y tes, N ½	26	5 E	323.37	7 June, 1860	2,213 27	6 82
Yates, E ½ S E	26	5 E	80.98	28 Feb., 1876	2,024 50	25 00
Chenoa	26	4 E	637.18	7 Sept., 1864	5,930 19	9 38
Anchor	24	6 E	638.24	5 Oct., 1870	12,620 38	19 77
West	22	5		1 March, 1876, offered for sale and no bidders		

Average appraisement, $29.93.

Most of these lands were sold in forty and eighty acre lots, the Bloomington section was sold in ten acre lots. In most instances, except in the later sales, the lands were purchased by the neighboring farmers and not by speculators. The laws under which these lands were sold seemed contrived to get rid of the school lands at as early a date as possible. The United States



EZRA M. PRINCE,

Secretary McLean County Historical Society.

sold its lands at $1.25 an acre cash, but by the law of 1831 lands could be sold without appraisement and by the law of 1832 on credit. It would seem that it was a great misfortune that these lands were sold at all, but Professor W. L. Pillsbury, the able historian of our public schools of Illinois, says that so great was the poverty of the state at that time, the rates of interest on school funds (12 per cent) was so high and so urgent was the need of pubic aid that the disposal of them, even at the low prices, was wise and judicious. In 1850 the secretary of state, ex-officio superintendent of schools in his report estimates that two-thirds of the amount paid for the support of the common schools of the state was derived from the income of this 16th section township fund. The preservation of the sixteen section in West township was due to the Hon. Henry West, for whom the township was named. The sale was petitioned for by nearly the entire voting population of the township, but Mr. West who had great confidence in the prospective increase in the value of the land prevented the sale by securing a high valuation on it, averaging $29.93 and just before the sale securing the lease land for five years in consideration of certain improvements to be made on it. The 240 acres remaining unsold in Yates township was probably not sold at the time offered on account of its high appraisement.

In many townships the whole section was not sold on the first sale but part at subsequent dates. In the above table in such cases I have only given the years of these sales subsequent to the first sale.

The county superintendent's office contains a record of all these sales, except 16, 22, 4 E., Empire township, of which it has no record of the petition division into lots or sale; for the sales in this section I am indebted to the courtesy of J. J. Pitts.

Prof. W. L. Pillsbury in his address before the State Historical Society, 1891, speaking of the influence of the United States land grant on the cause of education and the fact that the State Normal for several years was almost entirely supported from the income of the seminary fund, said: "Thus we see that the existence of those funds constantly stimulated effort and for the establishment of a school of instruction for teachers and I think it is not too much to say that there is no probability that we should have secured our first normal school until long after the Civil War had it not been for the large grant for a seminary fund.

Amount of sales of 16th section, swamp land fund and total loanable funds each township in McLean county:

TOWNSHIP	SECTION SIXTEEN	SWAMP LAND	TOTAL LOANABLE FUND
Mt. Hope	$ 2,414 52	$ 2,393 83	$ 4,895 00
Allin	1,367 26	1,732 38	4,312 54
Danvers	834 80	2,144 22	4,620 50
Funk's Grove	1,432 20	2,393 83	6,334 00
Dale	830 00	1,732 38	3,120 75
Dry Grove	840 00	1,795 38	3,217 32
White Oak	1,616 85	866 19	.....
Randolph	800 00	2,393 83	3,115 00
Bloomington	4,603 27	1,732 38	5,050 00
Normal	5,992 66	1,732 38	7,283 55
Hudson	1,540 00	1,795 38	5,305 28
Downs	975 71	2,393 83	3,591 00
Old Town	1,209 30	1,732 38	3,426 37
Towanda	852 22	1,795 38	3,079 50
Money Creek	1,080 00	1,795 38	3,686 16
Gridley	3,283 86	2,693 07	7,025 25
Empire	4,187 50	2,393 83	7,680 30
Dawson	1,891 65	1,795 38	5,060 00
Blue Mound	4,753 13	1,795 38	13,606 17
Lexington	1,437 50	1,732 38	2,700 00
Chenoa	5,930 19	1,732 38	14,405 71
West	unsold	2,393 83	42,480 13
Arrowsmith	2,987 38	1,795 38	6,450 00
Martin	1,291 06	1,795 38	6,023 14
Lawndale	1,641 34	1,795 38	6,395 50
Yates—unsold, 240 acres	4,237 77	1,795 38	33,370 00
Belleflower	4,320 00	2,399 83	11,105 00
Cheney's Grove	852 62	1,732 38	2,100 00
Anchor	12,620 38	.....	15,583 60
Cropsey	.....	2,661 57	.....

RECAPITULATION.

School fund proper per cent sales of public lands		$ 633,362 96
Surplus revenue		335,592 32
College fund		156,613 32
Seminary fund		59.838 72
County fund, Act Legislature Feb. 7, 1835		160,572 61
Sales of 16 section	$5,915,260 28	
Value of land unsold	9.564,197 24	
		15,479,457 42
Industrial University (now University of Illinois) fund as per report of superintendent of public instruction, 1898		606.523 85

The only source of the loanable funds in this county are the proceeds of sales of the 16th section, the swamp lands and donations to the fund. In most townships this fund aggregates more than these two funds. I know of no cause for this, except the interest in the early days of the county has not all been expended for school purposes, but has in part been added to the principal.

In Cheney's Grove township these two funds aggregate $2,585, while the loanable funds only amount to $2100.00. Whether there is

due to the defalcation of some treasurer or the loss of some loan, I am not advised. In May, 1894, Normal township lost by the failure of W. H. Schureman, its treasurer, several thousand dollars, but from the state of the funds in the several townships it is evident that the school funds of this county have been administered with great skill and integrity.

DAVID OGLE FUND.

I know of only two donations to the public school funds in this county, those by David Ogle to the townships of Yates and Chenoa. David Ogle, a Scotchman by birth, came to this country at an early day. By thrift, economy and energy he became wealthy. Having no wife or children, he determined to return to the community where he had earned his wealth a part of it, and accordingly in 1872 he made donations to the school funds of these townships, and May 20, 1882, he executed a deed of trust of his donation which was recorded in deed record of this county, book 87, p. 232, wherein it is witnessed he conveyed to the school trustees of Chenoa township notes and money amounting to $5,800, to be loaned as the other school funds of the township, the interest, after paying to said Ogle during his lifetime $26, semi-annually, to be used in payment of the teachers of the common district schools to be apportioned among the districts in proportion to the number of days attendance of scholars in the several districts, no high school to have any interest in said fund. By a similar instrument he conveyed to Yates township $2,000 subject to semi-annual payments to himself of $13 during his life. Deed record 87, p. 231. These trust funds at his death amounted to something over the sums named in the deeds, he not having called for the semi-annual payments to himself, which was added to the principal.

The state pays six per cent interest on the school funds it has received. This is collected as the other state taxes and is paid to the county superintendents of the several counties pro rata according to population, and is by the superintendent distributed to the several townships according to the population under 21 years of age. The balance of the money needed to run the schools is certified by the school directors to the county clerk and by him extended on the tax books and collected and paid over to the township treasurer for the use of the schools in the several districts.

History of the Public Schools of Bloomington.

(Part I. From 1825 to 1892.)

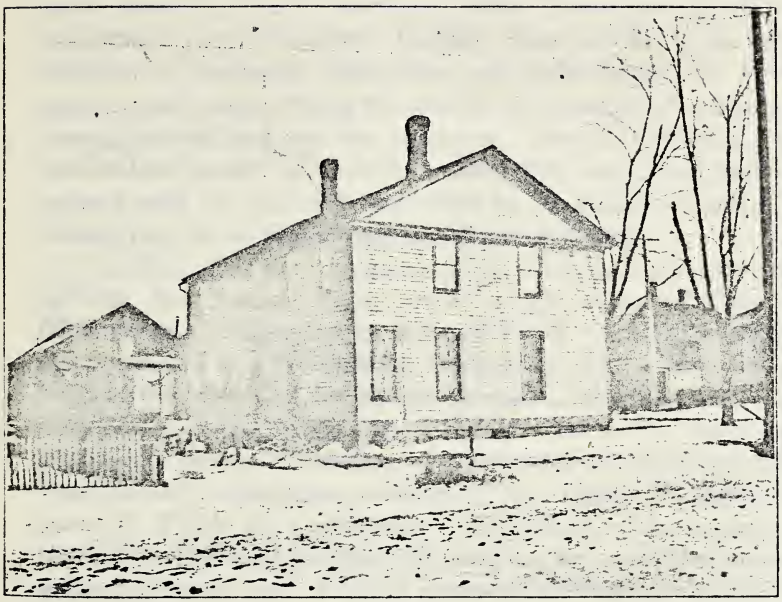
BY SARAH RAYMOND FITZWILLIAM.

In 1825, when there were only eleven families in Blooming Grove, a school was started by John W. Dawson in his own home, taught for two terms by Miss Delilah Mullen—the first teacher in McLean county. This private school was followed by a larger one, taught by Mr. W. H. Hodge in a school house built by subscription in the Orendorff neighborhood and for many years the greater part,—in most cases the whole—of the teachers' wages in Illinois was paid by subscription. We tell the story of the subscription paper as given by Mrs. J. N. Ward in a paper read in June, 1882, at the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the public schools under a special charter. She says: "It was the custom in those days for a person that expected to engage in such an enterprise to draw up a paper, and go about from house to house, extolling his own merits to the patrons and paying various obsequious attention to the children, in order to secure the good will of the one and the patronage of the other. There was only one sense in which the schools of those days could be called public, or adherent to any school system. Any school taught for a prescribed time each year by a qualified teacher who kept a schedule of attendance, was entitled to the benefit of the public fund."

The school commissioners constituted the committee for the examination of the teachers and signed the "certificate of qualification."

Mr. Hodge taught at Orendorff Grove several winters, and there were also, at different times, other teachers at the same place.

He opened a school in Bloomington village in 1831,—the year in which the first town lots were sold—taught two weeks and his term was finished by Amasa C. Washburn. Mr. Washburn's school was kept up until 1834 in a building near corner of Main and Olive



THE SEMINARY OR ACADEMY.

Now Standing Cor. Madison and Mill Streets.

streets. He conducted for a while what was known as a "loud school"—a school in which each pupil studied aloud. This system may have had its advantages, but they were not sufficient to make the system a success.

Mr. Washburn was a true Christian gentleman, and his influence was of a very high order.

The small amount of public money available would neither build commodious and convenient school houses nor furnish remunerative pay to those who taught. This fact led to the establishment of academies, seminaries, and select schools by private parties, and such a thing as equality of educational advantages among the rich and poor was unknown. Many of the leading citizens of that period, too, were from the South, and in that day were imbued with the spirit of opposition to the schools, honestly believing them to be detrimental to the public welfare.

In 1834, after the retirement of Mr. Washburn a Presbyterian minister, Rev. Lemuel Foster, erected at the corner of Main and Olive streets a building known as the Seminary. Mr. Foster's school was conducted as a Presbyterian academy for several years and the building was also used for church purposes, being the first really commodious church in the city. The school under Mr. Foster's administration became the leading institution and was sometimes called "high school," oftener the "seminary." Rev. George W. Minier followed Mr. Foster for a short time. Dr. Finley, of Jacksonville, a Methodist, afterwards purchased the building and conducted a female academy for some time. As it did not prove profitable, several public-spirited citizens, believing that Bloomington needed a literary institution of a high grade, formed a stock company and purchased the property. The stockholders concluded to donate the stock to some one who would take the property off their hands and maintain the school. Under this arrangement Professor Daniel Wilkins became the owner, and conducted a school until the Wesleyan University was established and overshadowed its less pretentious predecessor. Young ladies from various towns and cities in the state attended this institution which was maintained until 1857. The late Peter Folsom also taught a school in what is now known as the Hays House, 314 South Main street.

Miss Parsons about this same period conducted a school for the training of young ladies. Mrs. J. N. Ward, nee Miss Martha

Tompkins, opened a school in the summer of 1842 in a building which stood at the southeast corner of Washington and Center streets. This building was erected in the early settlement of the town by Benjamin F. Haines, one of the pioneer settlers of Bloomington, and maternal grandfather of Ex-Mayors Bunn and Thomas, of the city. It comprised both a store and a dwelling,—the store, our school-room. The number of her pupils was limited to twenty-five or thirty in accordance with the wishes of her patrons. Mrs. Ward gives the following interesting description of her school-room, methods of instruction, professional associations, etc., which we take the liberty of incorporating into our historical sketch.

The teachers and pupils of our public schools of to-day would find a marked contrast in the appliances for use and comfort in the well warmed, well-ventilated, cheerful rooms they now occupy, to the school-room of the early forties. We will describe our own room, which was perhaps better than most of its time. School-room furnishings were unknown as a marketable commodity, and we were fortunate to procure some that had been used by a predecessor. First, ranged around the room in close proximity to the wall was a long continuous desk; in front of this were long, rude benches, the most of them made of split logs with legs driven into the rounding side. These were for the older pupils. When in position they sat facing the teacher, with the sharp edge of the desk at their backs. When they wished to write or use maps they changed their position by a movement more characterized by dexterity than grace; they whirled their feet over the bench and sat with their back to the teacher. In front of these sat the smaller children on lower benches. We had a blackboard, too, which was quite an innovation. It was a formidable revolving machine about as complicated as a windmill and like Van Buren's cloak, good on both sides; this, with a pine table and a small box-stove, constituted our furniture. The center of the room was an open drill ground, where classes were marshalled for recitation or discipline; where the teacher promenaded *ad libitum* in full-fledged dignity, flourishing switch or ruler at will, a terror to evil-doers and a benediction to the good. There the spelling class stood with folded hands and arms, with their toes on the mark and passed up or down the line, as they in turn were victor or vanquished in the spelling match, the one leaving off at the head of the class being entitled to wear home the silver medal, tied with a bright ribbon, and return to the foot of the class in the morning. There during the writing hour the teacher passed from pupil to pupil inspecting their work, writing copy, or making and mending quill pens, which was an indispensable qualification of every teacher, and deserves to be classed among the fine arts. It may be a matter of wonder where all the quills came from. We will tell you where ours were obtained. One of our prominent merchants in making a memorandum of supplies for a promiscuous store, to be purchased in St. Louis, put down among sundries, "One M. goose quills." The purchaser not being familiar with the memo-

randum, and not remembering that in Roman numerals M stood for one thousand, read, "one million goose quills." The seller of quills remonstrated—one million was an unprecedented number—but the purchaser was inexorable; it was no mistake; he *knew* what he wanted; so the market was bought up and a corner made on quills, and we had an unfailing supply.

Mrs. Ward found a generous competitor in Dr. William C. Hobbs, who was a teacher of distinction for many years, his school being composed mostly of larger boys, and Mrs. Ward's of the girls and smaller boys.

The bold, round clerical handwriting so often seen in the surviving documents of "ye olden time" preserves the knowledge of the high degree of excellence attained in that department of education, the clearly defined letters putting to shame the scrawling and obscure chirography of the present day.

Ciphering was a marvel in its way. Often a single arithmetic sufficed for the entire school, and that one copy was held and presided over by the master alone, the profane hands of the pupils not being allowed to touch it.

When the sum was set and given out, the pupils "worked it out" the best they could and then presented it at the desk for approval. Practical examples were often improvised. For instance, What is the price of fifty-six pounds of beef at two and a half cents a pound, one-third of it being fat and the remainder lean; and woe betide the luckless wight who blundered in the last clause.

The "double rule of three" was the grand arena of the arithmetical athletes of the period and the solution of "knotty questions" found in its intricacies was among the evening amusements of those early days. Geography if taught was largely taught by the singing method.

Rev. E. S. McCaughey, a brother-in-law of ex-Vice President Stevenson, came to Bloomington in 1853 and opened a private school in a little school house on the southeast corner of Monroe and Oak streets. He occupied it through the summer months, and when Major's College was completed he transferred his school to that building. His niece, Mrs. Gildersleeve, of Hudson, assisted him. This school was patronized by many of the best families in town—McIntires, Styles, Roe, McCart, Judge Holmes, Drs. Warinner and Dunn. The institution flourished with the faculty named and the late Mrs. John F. Humphreys as director of music.

The other private institution at this time being the Wesleyan, in its infancy, and Wilkins' Seminary.

Rev. Robert Conover's Bloomington Female Seminary, a Presbyterian institution, was located on East Grove street in 1856, and continued a very useful and active institution until 1872. Among its pupils were some of the young ladies from the most aristocratic families.

In 1856, William T. Major built what was afterward known as Major's College, at the north end of West street and just south of Major's Grove. This was a female institution of the Christian denomination. Among the successors to Rev. Mr. McCaughey was Professor Gilbert Thayer, who maintained for several years a very fashionable young ladies' school. About 1878 this building passed into the hands of the Illinois Wesleyan University.

In the fifties, however, there seemed to be an awakening, and on February 22, 1857, the first charter to establish and regulate a system of public schools in the city of Bloomington was granted by the legislature of the state.

This charter called for a triennial election in the city, by qualified voters, of a board of education to consist of seven members. The charter provided for such an election to be held on the first Monday in April, A. D. 1857.

As a result of such election, the following named gentlemen were declared by the city council to constitute the first board of education of the city: C. P. Merriman, R. O. Warinner, O. T. Reeves, E. R. Roe, Eliel Barber, Samuel Gallagher, Henry Richardson. In the meeting for organization, which was held at the office of O. T. Reeves on the 8th day of April, 1857, the following officers were chosen: President, C. P. Merriman, secretary, R. O. Warinner; treasurer, O. T. Reeves.

The five separate school districts which lay within the city limits now placed their debits and credits at the disposal of the board.* A statement of the condition of the treasury of these districts may be of interest. District No. 1—Indebtedness, $275; cash on hand, $1,000. District No. 3—Indebtedness, $32.34; cash on hand, $80.00; balance, $47.16. District No. 4—Amount of build-

*For an account of the organization of these five school districts see sketch of H. L. S. Haskell in this volume.

ing fund on hand, $2,065. District No. 5—Indebtedness, $50. Total amount received April, 1857, $3112.16. No records of the number of children enrolled in the several districts at this time can be found, but at a meeting of the board on April 11, 1857, five teachers were appointed to take charge of the schools in the several wards, so that we cannot estimate the attendance as being much if any more than 300. The need of new school buildings was from the first a matter of consideration by the board, and at their meeting held April 11, 1857, it was voted "to build four new school houses in different parts of the city for the accommodation of schools so soon as funds sufficient could be raised."

The first estimate of the board to the city council called for $10,000 in addition to the general school fund, to defray the expenses of maintaining the schools of the city. As a result of the request for this estimate the following communication was sent to the board by the council: "Whereas, The board of education having made a report to this council demanding a levy of a five mill tax for school purposes, and it being the opinion of this council that said levy would be a very burdensome and very oppressive tax upon the people at the present time, therefore, Resolved, That it is our bounden duty to respectfully decline an order for said levy."

As a result of this action the board employed Abraham Lincoln to take the necessary steps to procure from the circuit court a writ of mandamus to compel the council to levy a tax as required of them by section eight of the school charter law.

The whole matter seems to have been amicably adjusted, however, by the board presenting a memorial to the council requesting them to reconsider their action.

The first high school was established in the fall of 1857 and was conducted in a room on the second floor of a frame building known as Wilkins' Seminary, located at the corner of Main and Olive streets. It was under the direction of Mr. J. A. Johnson. Before the close of the year, however, it was removed into the basement of the Christian church, northwest corner of West and Jefferson streets. Before the close of the school year, the first substantial public school building in Bloomington was completed in what was then the extreme southeastern part of the city, the corner of Taylor and Evans streets. It was located in the fourth ward and consisted of only the north section of the present building, and con-

tained the following rooms: A primary and intermediate school in the basement rooms, two grammar schools on the first floor, and the high school on the upper floor with recitation room at its south end.

At this time the other school buildings of the city were a little one-story building on East Jefferson street consisting of two rooms, in which Miss Mary Lichtenthaler, now of California, acted as principal, and Miss Kate I. Young, now Mrs. Bloomfield, was assistant.

Two rooms were fitted up in the basement of the Christian church and Miss Walton and Miss Wilder taught. On the ground of the old high school building on West Monroe street was a little frame building of two rooms, occupied by Miss Martha Fay and Miss Fannie Drake. On West street between Grove and Olive there was a little frame building of one room, used in the early seventies for the colored school. On South Madison street, I think in the same block with Rev. James Shaw or near it, stood another small frame building of two rooms, where Miss Lizzie Price, daughter of Rev. H. R. Price, was principal, and Miss Billings was her assistant. This building for many years, owing to the peculiar color of the paint, was called the "Yaller Cat." This was eventually moved to the southwest corner of Evergreen Cemetery and was used for school purposes a few years and then torn down. At the corner of West and Walnut street stood two buildings, one containing one room and the other two rooms, which were used for school purposes until 1871, when they were moved to the present site of the Sheridan school and used until destroyed by fire in 1879. This building enjoyed the soubriquet of the "Old Barn" and was fittingly named.

The first school for the education of the colored children of Bloomington was organized in 1860 and was placed in charge of Mrs. Howard, a returned missionary from Burmah. She received $25 a month for compensation. This school was sustained until 1874.

In 1859 the country was new. Normal had only twenty houses and Bloomington was a straggling prairie town of six or seven thousand inhabitants. The people were poor; crops had failed for a year or two and the great financial crash of 1857 had ruined its thousands and money had not been available for fine buildings.

During the time Mr. Hull was principal of the high school, he graduated the first class in 1864, consisting of two members.

Lucretia Billings and Sarah Walker Flagg. The records show that the commencement exercises were held in Phoenix Hall, and in connection with the same a public address was given by Rev. Mr. Andrus, then a member of the school board. No class was graduated from that time until 1871, when five received diplomas upon the recommendation of the high school principal, Dr. B. P. Marsh.

The class consisted of the following persons: Mabel Hetherington, Kate Morrison, Hamilton Spencer, John Williams, Mark Williams. The exercises were held in the Academy of Music. Classes from the high school have regularly graduated each year since 1871, and the alumni roll numbered in 1892, four hundred and twenty members. The record of a very large per cent of these graduates is one of which a community, and especially teachers and pupils, may be justly proud. They are found in the armies of usefulness and distinction, leading in their various avocations the best spirit and thought in their respective localities.

The salaries of the teachers at the time ranged from $25 to $40 per month for women and from $50 to $60 per month for men.

Nothing of unusual interest seemed to mark the history of the schools for several years.

The civil war seems to have in a great measure checked the progress of the schools which would otherwise evidently prevailed. Many resignations of teachers and members of the board for the purpose of enlarging the army, are matters of record. In 1866 a renewed interest seems to have been awakened. A new school building was erected in the northeast part of the city in 1867, known as the No. 1 school. The building, although modeled after one in Rochester, N. Y., was lacking in many of the most essential elements. It accommodated six hundred pupils, and for a few years the high school was conducted there, as well as departments of the grammar, intermediate and primary grades. The high school building, corner Monroe and Oak streets, was erected in 1868 at a cost of $30,354.60.

(The statement in regard to the cost of this building was obtained from an ex-member of the board, as the records do not show the contract price.)

School building No. 2, erected in 1872, cost $5,765; schoo. building No. 3, erected in 1869, cost $28,415 exlusive of the cupola.

School building No. 4 was built in 1858 and cost $6,000. An addition to this building was made in 1870, the contract price work being $1,703. The expense of the other work on the addition is combined with the accounts of other buildings, rendering it impossible to give an accurate statement of entire expense.

No. 5 school building was erected in 1870 at a cost of $18,950; school building No. 9, erected in 1872, at a cost of $1,720, with an allowance to the contractor for changes in specifications. No. 6 school building was erected in 1879—the old structure known for years as the "Old Barn School" having been destroyed by fire in July of the same year. This building, built of brick, was located on West Walnut street and consisted of four school rooms and basement. This year also marks the erection of Jefferson Street school building consisting of eight rooms and basement. The united expense of these two buildings was about $15,000, the expense of which was met by the sale of school bonds. Market school was built in 1877. It was a frame building, consisting of four rooms and a basement. In 1884, $3,750 was expended in the enlargement of No. 4 school building. The Raymond school building was built in 1888 in that part of the city known as Stevensonville. It consists of four rooms and basement and cost about $4,000.

The expenses named for each building do not include furnaces, furniture, fences, walks and outbuildings. An old school building situated in the South Hill school site was burned in August, 1868.

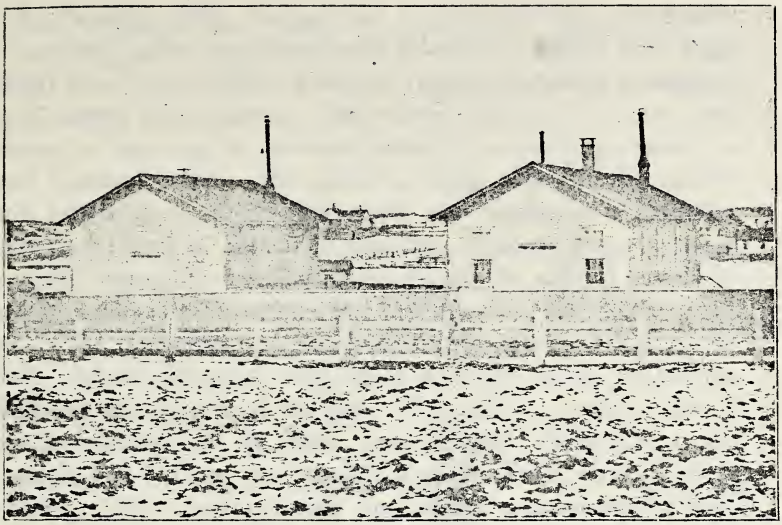
BONDS ISSUED.

During the years 1867, '68, '69, '70 and '72, $150,000 of 10 per cent bonds were issued, the last of which was paid in 1883. Fifteen thousands dollars of bonds were issued in 1879 to run twenty years. These bonds were issued for the purpose of obtaining funds with which to erect No. 6 and Jefferson Street school buildings.

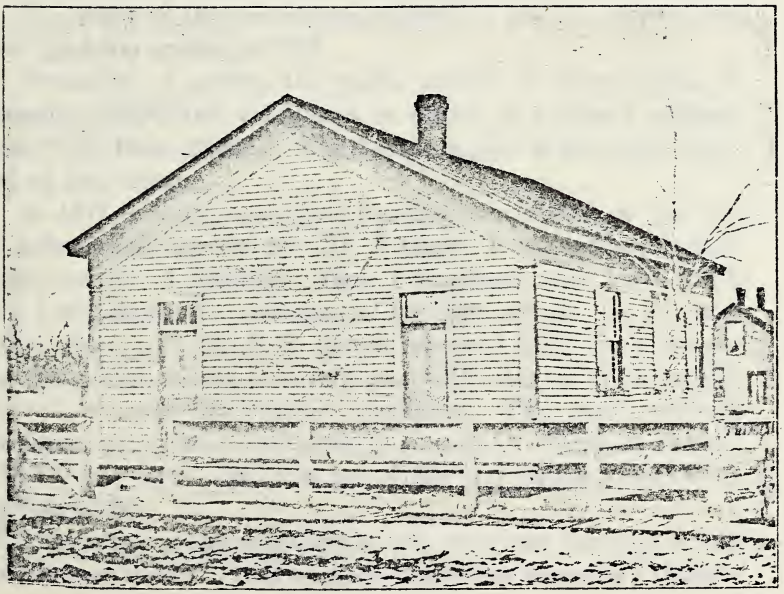
AMENDMENT TO CHARTER.

The charter obtained in 1857 received amendments in 1865, 1867, and 1869, the nature of which may be found in the manuals published in 1876 and 1883.

A small pamphlet was issued in 1867 containing a copy of the charter, a set of rules and regulations, a list of members of the standing committees of the board of education.



NO. 6, "OLD BARN" SCHOOL BUILDINGS, BLOOMINGTON.



"YALLER CAT" SCHOOL BUILDING, BLOOMINGTON, NO. 7.

In January, 1872, the new No. 5 school building was opened for occupancy under my direction as principal. Pupils from three districts were here enrolled, until our register indicated a membership of nearly five hundred. The colored pupils of the city, had, previous to this date, all attended school in a building located on South Madison street. The distance which some of the colored pupils had to go to attend this school was considered a hardship. Although the laws of Illinois at that time required them to attend the school especially established for them, the colored people of Bloomington decided to make a test case and send the children who lived in the immediate neighborhood of the new building to this school. Several attempts were made and the school authorities maintained the dignity of the law. The children, under order of the superintendent, S. M. Etter, were ejected, whereupon a suit of assault and battery was brought by the colored people against the board. The case was carried from court to court, finally being decided in the Supreme Court in favor of the colored people; and No. 5 school, under my administration, was the first to admit colored children with white children.

The old prejudices of anti-bellum days soon disappeared and our young friends seemed to be very happy in their new relations.

The study of German was introduced in the high school and upper grammar grades in 1872.

Personally, I entered the public schools of Bloomington in September, 1868, and was placed in charge of a second primary in the "Old Barn School." The following year I was made principal of this district.

In 1871, a large eight-room building was erected on this site and after organizing the new No. 6 school, I was made principal of the new No. 5 building. Here I remained until April, 1873, when I was chosen first assistant of the high school. At the close of this school year, Dr. B. P. Marsh, who had filled the principalship of the high school, in a very acceptable manner to the public, resigned to enter the medical profession. The board, without solicitation on my part, elected me to succeed Dr. Marsh at a salary of $1200 per year. This was one of the very happy years of my professional life.

The young people represented the very best families of the city and were hearty in their support of any new measures I thought

best to inaugurate. I had an able corps of assistants, and the school grew in interest and numbers—the enrollment reaching 241 at the close of the year. My first assistants were Miss Harriet Dunn, an able and effective high school teacher, and Miss Susan Hale. The graduating class of this year consister of Minnie Crist, Belle Ferre, Elizabeth Porter, Sue Read, Nellie Withers, Edgar Conkling, John Morrissey.

The almost exclusive employment of women as teachers, inaugurated during the civil war, seemed still to be the policy of the board of education. Not more than two male teachers were employed at any one time from 1857 to 1865, and a total of only twenty-five from 1857 to 1874. Mr. Gaylord resigned his office as superintendent and I was elected to fill his place.

This was the first time in the history of this county that a lady had been invited to hold so responsible a post. Active teaching had been so fascinating a profession to me, it was with many questionings in my own heart, that I accepted the very high compliment paid me by the board, but trusted and hoped that all might be as agreeable as my earlier experiences.

As I took my seat only a few days before the opening of the school year, I found myself in the midst of the following conditions: Fifty-three lady teachers; no gentlemen in any department of educational work.

A change had been made in June of the school reader from McGuffy to the Independent. Mutterings of dire opposition to this step had been reaching my ears for several days before the opening of the schools and when orders for school books were issued by the teachers to pupils entering new grades, to purchase the adopted book, a bloodless warfare was inaugurated on the part of some of the very earnest taxpayers and politicians. In those days the superintendent also acted as secretary of the board, and a few weeks revealed to me some new methods of bookkeeping in the old accounts not in keeping with the actual transactions of the board.

A floating debt of nearly $40,000 and a bonded debt of $125,000 bearing 10 per cent interest was the financial status. The activity in building between the years 1868 and 1872 was responsible for much of this large indebtedness.

A course of study largely promulgated from term to term by word of mouth, was a hard one to catch.

Some from honest motives and some from questionable ones seemed desirous of further embarrassing the situation by promulgating the doctrine, that no woman, physically or mentally could ever handle such an enterprise. I must admit, that when I contemplated the sins of omission and commission of my predecessors, as well as the work which should be honestly and earnestly accomplished in connection with the public schools, I realized that I held no enviable position.

Having the confidence of the board, and its moral and executive support, the work of knowing the actual methods and subjects of instruction and personal character of every teacher was begun in earnest, in order that I might by the close of the year, place an honest and intelligent report before the board and the community. The year was strangely intermixed with triumphs and disappointments—probably no more so than fall to the lot of one who enters a new department of any profession. To be depressed or surrender a duty begun were not a characteristic of mine, either by education or inheritance, and with renewed encouragement from both community and board, my second year's work found me gathering material for an elaborate course of study in harmony with the best thought of the ablest educators of the county. This work materialized in a manual issued in December, 1871, copies of which are on file at the office of the board of education.

No one, except he were personally connected with the work, can understand the value of this systematizing and suggestive volume to the principals and teachers. It was a volume sought after by superintendents from all parts of the country. I must acknowledge the faithful work of the majority of the teachers and the careful supervision of the several principals in carrying out the spirit of the new course. One needs to remember always that any course of study, no matter how explicit and complete it may seem, is a dead letter without the spirit of life which an earnest, efficient teacher can breathe into it.

The schools grew in importance and interest from year to year. In 1876 the public schools made a highly credited exhibit at the Centennial at Philadelphia. Bound volumes of papers from the pupils of all grades on various topics were entered, as well as photographs of the buildings and blackboard work. We

have guarded this latter volume with great care and I hereby tender it at this time to the custody of the McLean County Historical Society. The whole expense of this exhibit I bore personally, but my compensation was received in pleasant comparisons with work in exhibition from other cities of the union.

In 1883 a revised manual was issued, the subjects included in the course of study being those which were considered indispensable to a well-trained mind. Revisions to this manual were published in 1891. Music, drawing in all its forms, kindergarten work in the primary grades, generous supplementary reading lists, in addition to the ordinary branches were given careful attention. Our high school course was enlarged so as to fit pupils for entrance into the higher schools and universities of the country. During the years 1877-78 and 1878-79 a very successful night school was conducted in the high school building, the enrollment reaching over 100 pupils the last year.

About 1880 the Bloomington high school was placed in the accredited list at Champaign.

With an interesting course of study came that good discipline and respect of pupils for teacher and school which follow when the mind is pleasantly enjoyed.

The *esprit du corps* of the teachers was most beautiful, and teachers were factors in the best social circles.

TEACHING FORCE.

Beginning the work in 1874 with a force of fifty-three teachers, all ladies, the schools grew in numbers and subjects to be taught were greatly increased, that at the close of my administration in 1892, seventy-eight were enrolled for full work—three of whom were gentlemen. During the term of eighteen years, 392 different teachers were employed—this number including all substitutes as well as regular teachers. Of the entire number, eighteen were males and thirty-six were dismissed for inefficiency.

My estimate carefully considered is that of the full force employed, 300 did excellent work and proved themselves valuable to the educational interests of the city. Twenty-five were found to do mediocre work and were not retained, and the balance proved upon trial their unfitness for imparting instruction. Did time

MRS. SARAH E. RAYMOND-FITZWILLIAM.

and space permit we should like to append the names of every loyal efficient teacher whose name was enrolled during my administration. I cannot speak in too high terms of the character, efficiency, and loyalty of the majority with whom I was so delightfully associated. Seven of the appointees of 1874 I left in 1892 to continue their good work.

I desire to here pay, what is probable my last opportunity, a tribute of respect and appreciation to all the members of the board of education, who with an eye single only to the highest interests of the schools, stood beside the upbuilding of the educational interests of the city.

From 1874 to 1891 the board was constituted of the trusted men and women of the city and nation. Aldermen, mayors, congressmen, judges, United States vice-president and the most belove and respected business men in the city gave their time and talent to the upbuilding of a system of schools that had national fame for their dignity and thoroughness.

Character is the ultimate object of all true education, for without it no person is qualified to live. Sir Walter Scott replied to an extravagant eulogism upon mere literary accomplishments, "God help us, what a poor world this would be if that were the true doctrine. Genius does not rule the life,it awakens admiration. The heart is sovereign as the world goes, and finally weilds the power and commands the respect. Mere intellectuality is dwarfish and weak besides spirituality. Intellect dazzles, but character leads."

We close with a quotation from James Freeman Clark which so accords with the educational sentiment I have always held:

"Education, in the true sense, is not mere instruction in Latin, English, French, or history. It is the unfolding of the whole human nature. It is growing up in all things to our highest possibility. This is a life-work; a work in which our teachers are the heavens and the earth, day and night, work and rest, nature and society, heavenly inspirations and human sympathies, success and failure, sickness, pain, bereavement; all of this great human life. And with this teaching there must be earnest desire and purpose in our own soul to grow, to become larger, deeper, higher, nobler, year by year."

Part II—1892 to 1902.

BY E. L. BOYER.

Mr. J. L. Beath and Mr. A. W. Quackenbush were elected to the board in the spring of 1892. The first named gentleman was a merchant on North Main street; and died in 1902. Mr. Quackenbush was for years one of the chief men in the employ of the C. & A. R. R. in this city. Mr. F. M. Funk became president, Robert B. Porter secretary and T. J. Burns treasurer for the year 1892-3. Dr. D. S. Dyson and Dr. Wunderlich were active members in the beginning of the year but both died during the following winter.

Miss Sarah E. Raymond had been city superintendent for eighteen years. Bloomington had grown to be an important city and her schools were widely known. On July 5, 1892, when Miss Raymond was reelected superintendent for the nineteenth time, she thanked the board for the courtesy but stated that arrangements made in the preceding January while on a visit to Boston, precluded her from accepting the position. This arrangement is not further explained except that she became the wife of Captain Fitzwilliam in Boston before many months had gone by. She resigned early, she said, that the board might make an early choice of her successor. Her resignation being accepted, Mr. E. N. Brown of Nebraska was elected to fill the position. He had been chosen elsewhere at a larger salary before he received notice of his election to the superintendency of Bloomington, and the position here was again open.

From the records it would seem that the board found it easy to disagree as to the fitness of candidates, for on July 15 twenty-one ballots were taken without a choice being made. They then adjourned to meet next on July 18. Drs. Dyson and Wunderlich were not present when, on July 18, two ballots were taken and Mr. Edwin M. Van Petten was elected her successor at a salary of $1500 a year.

Mr. VanPetten was educated at the Peoria County Normal School and at the Illinois Wesleyan University, being a graduate

of the latter institution. He had taught six years, two in the country schools and four years in the Joliet (Ill.) high school, where he first took an assistant's place and was promoted to the principalship at the end of his second year of service.

Miss Raymond had been superintendent for so long a time that there was something of a feeling that no one else could do the work successfully. The new superintendent could not but feel grave misgivings as to the proper continuance of the schools with a man at the head. Mr. VanPetten made his first report on the condition of the schools October 3, 1892. It states that he had visited every school room in the city; that teachers were generally efficient; that changes, slight in some cases, and great in others, were needed to increase efficiency; that improvements in furniture and appliances were also desirable. He expressed the belief that efficiency in the teaching corps could be increased without friction. The enrollment at that time was as follows: Franklin, then No. 1, 346; Edwards, then No. 2, 427; Irving, then No. 3, 504; Emerson, then No. 4, 311; Hawthorne, then No. 5, 323; Sheridan, then No. 6, 272; Lincoln, then No. 7, 102; Raymond, 115; Jefferson Street, 357. There was then no Washington school.

In 1892 some discussion came up in the board as to the relative salaries of men and women. A resolution was offered that "equal work, no matter by whom performed, should have equal pay." It had but one supporter and the motion died for want of a second.

The total expense of the city schools for 1892-3 was nearly or about $55,000.

During 1892-3 the board suffered the loss of two of its members, viz., Dr. Dunbar S. Dyson and Dr. Reinhold Wunderlich.

The minutes of April, 1893, contain resolutions showing that both of the deceased members were held in high respect as citizens and as members of the board.

In June, 1893, the board held a special meeting for the purpose of discussing the examination given by the superintendent to pupils wishing to enter the high school. There had been complaints about the failures to make the required average. Since such questions come to boards of education frequently, Superintendent Van Petten's report is here given:

"Mr. President, Gentlemen of the Board of Education.

"I understand that you have come together this evening to consider questions growing out of the recent examination of candidates for admission to the high school. The examination is practically concluded and the tabulated results are ready for presentation. Allow me to preface the report with a few remarks in which you may be interested.

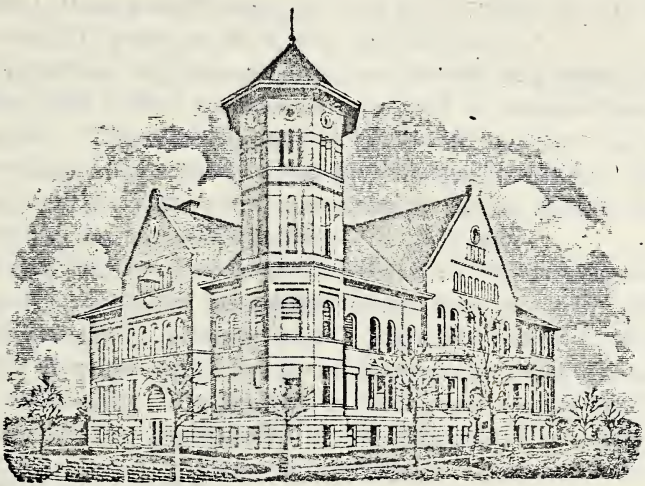
"The examination is intended as a test of schools rather than as a test of pupils. It is desirable that patrons of good schools should know their excellence and take pride and satisfaction in the worth of those who serve them so faithfully. It is also desirable that the board of education know the weak spots in the schools under their charge so that they may apply any reinforcements which they may deem wise. The examination has been conducted without the chance of favoritism. All pupils examined have written answers to the same questions at the same time and place. Each pupil has been known by a number, so that the person marking the paper could not know whose paper he was marking. All the answers to any given question have been corrected by the same teacher. You will see that with this method, partiality was impossible.

"I consider the questions asked very fair ones—easy rather than difficult. But the question of ease and difficulty is one of standards. What is hard for one may be easy for another. The questions are here and I invite you to inspect them. Pupils have been examined in nothing which they have not systematically studied. The majority have done good work and are proud of their records."

The report of the principal of the high school, Prof. Edward Manley, recommended that a new high school building be erected as soon as possible; and for the first time the board began seriously to consider the matter. Mr. Manley had been principal just two years when he resigned, during the summer of 1893, that he might take a post-graduate course in Harvard.

Very little building or improving of the old buildings had been done for years, and consequently the equipment throughout the city lacked greatly.

In the year 1893-4 the following were at the head of the schools: F. B. Spaulding, high school; Sally Porter, No. 1; Belle



HIGH SCHOOL, BLOOMINGTON.

Goudy, No. 2 and Market; Jeanette Lang, No. 3; James W. Tavenner, No. 4; Ida Gmehlin, No. 5; Mary T. Ward, No. 6; Alpha Stuart, Jefferson; Loveday Nelson, No. 7; Medora Schaeffer, Raymond.

In 1890 the board made inquiries as to the attendance in the high schools of Illinois and found that in Springfield, Decatur, Quincy, Peoria, and Rockford the attendance was proportionally greater than in Bloomington. This finding led the board to recommend changes which resulted in an increased enrollment. In 1890-1, there were 20 boys; in '91-2, 23; in '93-4, 46. In '90-1, there were 117 girls; in '91-2, 114; in '92-3, 137.

In 1893 the high school committee brought in a report recommending that certain teachers be appointed at salaries named in the report. This was objected to by Mr. Porter but the board finally adopted the report. From that time to the present (1902) the right of the high school committee to decide upon a faculty and salaries has not been questioned by the board.

At the July meeting Superintendent Van Petten was reelected at a salary of $2,000, an amount larger than had been paid to superintendents in previous years. Miss Ida Gmehlin resigned from the principalship of No. 5 and Miss Orrilla Sikes was elected to fill the vacancy. On September 4 the board elected Mr. F. B. Spaulding to the principalship of the high school at a salary of $1,200.

Mr. Beath reported in January, 1894, that the health of the teachers occupying basement rooms of school No. 6 had been seriously affected on account of the dampness. This caused a rapid move toward more healthful quarters for both teachers and children. Dingy, poorly ventilated rooms were destined to give way to modern apartments. The board was alive and the people were unusually interested in the schools as appears from the fact that the board in March, 1894, requested the city council to appoint two sets of judges and to secure two polling places instead of one as had been previously done in school elections.

Mr. A. W. Quackenbush resigned from the board before the election in the spring of 1894 because his duties with the C. & A. demanded that he be from the city much of the time. At the election in April, Dr. F. C. Vandervort, Mrs. Emmogene Akers and

Mr. August Boeker were chosen. Mr. Gerken and Mr. T. J. Burns were the retiring members. The new board organized as follows: F. M. Funk, president; H. G. Bent, secretary; J. L. Beath, treasurer. But one change occurred in the principalships, Prof. Ira M. Ong being chosen to succeed Mr. Tavenner at school No. 4.

On May 7 occurred the death of Mr. Robert B. Porter. At the following meeting of the board resolutions were adopted expressing appreciation of the services of Mr. Porter and of the great loss to the board through his death.

Be it resolved:

1. That during his incumbency of the office of member of Bloomington's board of education he did very efficient work for the advancement of the public schools.

2. That his interest pertaining to his office was always very keen and his time and strength were fully spent in visiting schools, investigating their needs and helping to supply them with everything required for their welfare.

3. That Mr. Porter was a man of fine education, excellent judgment, extensive knowledge of the history of the schools of Bloomington and of precedents in the board's action, and a man of uniformly courteous bearing. His services to us were therefore of great value, and we shall sorely miss him from our councils.

4. That we extend to his bereaved wife, to his mother and her family, and to all his sorrowing friends, our most sincere sympathy in this our common sorrow.

The schools were crowded and the growth of the city demanded that new sites and new buildings be secured. At the meetings in November and December, 1894, Mr. Beath, chairman of the building and grounds committee, recommended the purchase of eight lots in the Summit addition for the sum of $2,450. The board voted to have the committee secure the site and the secretary was instructed to draw an order for part of the purchase price needed to close the bargain. On December 3, 1894, Mr. Boeker reported that the alley in the Summit addition and separating the lots would be vacated for school purposes. He recommended the purchase of lot 14 for a janitor's cottage.

The recommendation was favorably received and the additional purchase was authorized. The building and grounds com-

mittee was instructed at a meeting held on December 20 to have plans drawn for an eight-room building to be erected on the lots recently bought. Not until March 4, 1895, were plans entirely satisfactory submitted, Reeves and Baillie of Peoria, Ill., being the successful architects. Much attention was given to heating, ventilation and lighting. Trips were made to other cities where modern buildings had been put up. The board determined to be economical by spending money to know how to spend the public funds to the best advantage. Dr. Vandervort was sent to Cincinnati to inspect the furnaces and closet system of the Peck-Williamson Company. Early in February a resolution passed in the board to adopt a hot-air furnace system of heating and ventilating, also the adoption of a ventilating system of flushing water closets.

At the February meeting, 1895, too the following resolution was voted: "Resolved, That at the time and place of the ensuing city school election of Bloomington, the question whether the board of education shall be authorized to issue and sell forty thousand dollars' worth of additional bonds for the purpose of building a new high school shall be submitted to the vote of the qualified voters of the city, and that due and proper notice be given. The issue of the bonds was voted. They had talked much of the new building and felt the need of it, but they thought that so important a matter should be submitted to the vote of the people. There were those in the city that felt that there was no need of a new and larger building for a high school. They did not know from observation that the old building with an assembly to accommodate less than one hundred in desk seats was packed to overflowing. Many citizens had given little or no thought at all to the matter. It is worthy of note here that the majority of all classes had confidence that the board voted the wish of the people, and the confidence was shown by carrying the proposition by a safe majority at the polls.

At this election Prof. B. S. Potter, Mrs. Olive A. Hamilton and Attorney Calvin Rayburn were chosen to the board. The organization was as follows: Dr. Franklin C. Vandervort, president; Prof. B. S. Potter, secretary; Attorney Calvin Rayburn, treasurer. It was extremely important that the right persons be chosen on the building and grounds committee. Mr. A. Bocker, F. M. Funk and B. S. Potter were named by President Vandervort and to them much credit is due for the excellent building work of the year.

At the meeting held on May 20, 1895, it was moved by Attorney Calvin Rayburn that the committee on building and grounds be instructed to get dimensions, plat, grades, etc., of properties offered for high school sites and bring in a written report. The motion carried. On June 7 the board took an informal ballot to find, if possible, which of several sites informally discussed seemed to be most favored. Four votes were given for the Independent church property and one for the Stipp place on East Grove street. From the records it appears that the building and grounds committee spared neither time nor pains in hunting a locacation for the new high school. The board worked faithfully to secure the best site and at the least possible expenditure of money. After examining many sites, the board, August 5, 1895, authorized the purchase of the property between Gridley and Prairie streets, on the north side of North street, for the high school site. The property at the west was known as the Allsop place and had been a large boarding place for many years. At the east was a small frame residence belonging to a Miss Henry. Seven thousand dollars was paid for the Allsop property and three thousand for the lots belonging to Miss Henry. The grounds being now secured, the work of buiding was to begin. Nothing, not even a store box, can be built without money, and the board proceeded to secure it. It was voted on August 15, 1895, to issue $15,000 in high school bonds bearing five per cent interest. The bonds were to be of denomination of $1,000 bearing date September 1, 1895, ten of said bonds due in ten years, and five of them in eleven years from date of issue. At the same meeting the board spent much of its time in examining the different plans and listening to the explanations of the authors of those plans. It was really the next morning, August 16, 1895, when the board finally voted for the plan of Reeves & Baillie of Peoria. Even then the vote was not for the plan as it was submitted. There were to be such modifications as the board might feel it wise to make.

The Lincoln school building on the lots recently bought in the Summit addition was much needed. Its completion would relieve the crowded schools in other parts of the city. The contractors did their best to have it ready for the opening of school in September, but delays were frequent and it was November when the

pupils and parents in that district celebrated its completion. It is built of brick, well lighted and ventilated, and was at the time, the only modern school building in the city.

The board at its meeting in December, 1895, thought it proper time to name the schools instead of having them known as school No. 1 or No. 2. School No. 1, by a vote of the board became Franklin school" and "Jefferson Street school" became "Jefferson school." Naming schools may appear a pleasant pastime to those who read of such matters, but "a good name is better than riches" in the eyes of any right community, and the board worked hard to secure the proper naming. The task was so great that not until February 3 was the work done. School No. 2 asked that "Edwards" be given it in honor of Dr. Richard Edwards, who had been president of the Illinois State Normal University and had later been a most efficient state superintendent of public instruction and so No. 2 became the "Edwards." School No. 3 presented a petition that it be called "Irving" in honor of Washington Irving. The petition was granted. The new school to be erected at the corner of Washington and State streets was named the "Washington school," in honor of George Washington. At the meeting in March, 1896, No. 4 was named "Emerson," No. 5 was called "Hawthorne" and No. 6 was called the "Sheridan." There seemed to be a feeling that No. 4 and No. 6 had not been named accurately enough. The "Emerson" became the "Ralph Waldo Emerson" school and the "Sheridan" became the "Phil. H. Sheridan." The Washington school was named before it was built. It was not until the end of March that the board finally decided to accept the plan and award the contract for the Washington to Mr. Herman Moratz.

Dr. F. C. Vandervort was elected president on May 18, at which time he made the following recommendations:

1. That the supervising principal be discontinued and that all principals teach classes.

2. That the superintendent do the supervising and that he be given two special assistants in the work.

3. That the new board each year be organized one week after school election, the committees appointed as soon thereafter as possible, and then the teachers be appointed at the May meeting instead of at the June meeting.

To get new ideas, a committee of the board visited several cities having different forms of supervision to decide whether Bloomington should change in accordance with the recommendations of Dr. Vandervort. The committee recommended that no change be made and their report was adopted.

In the spring of 1896 Mr. Fred Spaulding was succeeded by Mr. Edwin L. Boyer as principal of the high school. He is still (1902) in charge. He had been a teacher in the high school for four years and knew something of its needs.

Just before the opening of school in September, 1896, the board was solicited by citizens to put in a system of physical culture. After discussion as to the finances and as to the merits of the work it was decided to test it for three months. Prof. Fred Lorenz was engaged to instruct the teachers in suitable exercises to be given the children. Although he was employed for only half time, he managed to visit each room in the city for a few minutes during each month. It was found that systematic exercise thus given relieved to a great extent the restlessness of younger pupils.

During the erection of the high school building the presidential campaign of "sound money" engaged the country. So much was said for and against "free silver" that the public mind was greatly disturbed. The board found it difficult to obtain funds to carry on its work because moneyed men wanted school bonds payable in gold, principal and interest. A gentleman in Normal who claimed to know where there was just millions to lend at 6 per cent to such a town as Bloomington, failed to locate a single dollar of it when asked to do so. He claimed that nothing could be done until after election and for weeks the new structure, while still far from completion, hadn't a workman employed upon it. Dr. F. C. Vandervort was all activity at this time. He insisted that the money question should not delay the board's operations in any way. His enthusiasm was shared by other members of the board, and efforts to secure ready money were successful. Few can realize how tight those times were and just what energy was required to carry on the business of the board.

In September, 1896, the high school had an attendance of 307 pupils in the old high school room in the third story of the building at the corner of North and Oak with but eighty-nine desk seats, though

the seating was somewhat enlarged by settees against the walls and by the use of the outside hallways adjoining the room. Pupils had to be crowded into every available niche during the morning exercises—many being seated on the floor. The new structure seemed so nearly ready, and yet so far from completion as to make its use impossible. The dedicatory exercises were set for January 1, 1897, and the day was looked forward to by every high school pupil. Rev. F. D. Marquis, a former graduate of the high school, was chosen to give the address of the occasion.

The completed building was thrown open to pupils and patrons all afternoon of January 1, and notwithstanding the incessant rain that day, people came by hundreds to admire the new school. Teachers and pupils acted as guides—for many felt that they needed explanation as to the use to be made of the different apartments. When evening came, the heavy rain kept many from the exercises but the assembly and the lower halls were taxed for room to accommodate the citizens.

The first number of the Aegis, the high school paper, appeared at this time. It was made entirely by the high school—even the printing was done by a pupil, Mr. Earl Marquam. The following is the business card from the first number of the Aegis:

The High School Aegis.

JANUARY, 1897.

Published monthly by the students of the Bloomington High School, Bloomington, Illinois.

Editor-in-Chief, - - - ELIZABETH HAYNES, '97
Assistant Editors:—
WALTER CLARK, '97; LETTA BROCK, '97
JOSIE ELLSWORTH, '98; GEORGE CLARK, '98
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The following copied from the Pantagraph of January 2, 1897, will be of interest:

FORMALLY DEDICATED.

"The magnificent new building of the Bloomington high school was formally dedicated yesterday. Quite fittingly was the consummation of the enterprise that has given to this city the stately future home of education at the corner of Monroe and Prairie streets celebrated on the first day of the new year. The dawning of 1897 marks the dawning of a new era in the history of the Bloomington high school. With this new, perfectly appointed, commodious home, the school will doubtless rise to the numerical prominence that has been its just due from the educational standpoint, but from attaining which, it has been prevented in a measure by the crowded, unhealthy and antiquated quarters. Monday next, when the doors of the massive structure will swing open to those who welcome to its benefits the throng of Bloomington's future great, the local system will be able to offer to its patrons high school facilities of the best and the Evergreen City will chalk up a big credit mark for herself.

"One of those all-day drizzles was the best article the weather clerk could furnish, yet the building was crowded both afternoon and evening. People from all over the city swarmed through the labyrinth of passages and recitation rooms during the all-afternoon reception. The interior of the building has been described in previous issues of the Pantagraph. Suffice to say, that the comments on it were of the most favorable kind and calculated to impress the observer with the fact that the great majority of taxpayers were very well satisfied with their investment. Visitors were courteously attended by the members of the board of education and the high school faculty, together with a delegation of ushers from the students. Every teacher was on hand to show the guests through his department. In the basement a bevy of girls served ice cream to those desiring it, the proceeds going towards the gymnasium furnishing fund. A nest-egg of something like $40 was raised in this way.

DEDICATION SERVICES.

"The huge building was illuminated throughout at night for the first time and produced a striking effect when seen at a distance from its elevated position. The assembly room was neatly decorated for the occasion. Before 7 o'clock the people began to come and by 8 the assembly room was comfortably crowded. There was no rush, however, as would almost inevitably happened if the ticket plan had not been pursued.

"Dr. Vandervort called the assemblage to order at 8:10. A chorus of twenty-four voices, led by Mr. Clark Stewart, sang "Praise Ye the Father" very impressively. Dr. Richard Edwards offered invocation. The pupils of the high school, two abreast, and led by Principal Boyer, marched in review before the audience to a march composed by Master Howard Tuggle, a pupil. To say the least, the composition is a good one for a juvenile, and was well received.

BLOOMINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION AND OFFICIALS.

1. Sue A. Sanders.
2. William Hempstead.
3. Bradford S. Potter, Treas.
4. Horatio G. Bent, Pres.
5. Millard Lloyd.
6. Isla B. McCarty, Sec'y.
7. Henry C. Behr.
8. William K. Bracken.
9. J. K. Stableton, Supt.

"As a practical illustration of the system of physical culture now in vogue in the city schools, eleven pretty misses from the high school executed a 'ring drill.' The girls went through their evolutions supplely and gracefully and received the stamp of approval in the hearty encore, which they were not able to fulfill owing to the lack of time. Professor Lorenz conducted the movements of the girls. Then came the formalities between the architect, the contractor and the board. Mr. J. F. Evans, for the firm of J. W. Evans & Sons, made a complimentary speech to Mr. Reeves, of the architect firm, Mr. Reeves turning over the keys to Dr. Vandervort, representing the board. In accepting, Dr. Vandervort took occasion to deliver an address, which dealt largely with the history of the school and statistics, defending the financial course of the board. He defended the high school system, saying it is the poor man's college. Some people are inclined to think that the board is letting the high school override the grammar school division. Dr. Vandervort adduced statistics against the complaint. Concluding, he said the board had done their best and he believed the public would say that they had done well. He was vigorously applauded.

"Rev. W. S. Marquis, of Rock Island, was introduced. Rev. Marquis was a member of the first regular class to graduate from the reorganized high school. His discourse was an able, polished effort. The public school system was ably explained and defined. Self-government demands trained citizenship and hence good schools. The public school teaches the youth reverence of all knowledge and truth. It teaches lessons of self-control, obedience, perseverence and respect. It has been reproached because it mingles all classes, but that is one of its strongest advantages. The oak that is to weather storms must not be reared in a hot house. A debt that we owe the high school is that it leads to higher realms of thought. It lifts life above the spirit of the ages. In conclusion Rev. Marquis urged that the high school alumni association be organized.

"Capt. J. H. Rowell made a brief but exceedingly interesting and witty address. He said it was hard for gray heads to keep up with the procession, and hence they are apt to criticise modern methods and find fault with their magnificence. They say that the old log cabin school made better men than does the modern. It is easy to talk that way but it is hard to face the facts. Capt. Rowell referred humorously to his experience as a teacher and brought down roars of laughter. Seriously, statistics show that the more intelligent sections of the country are the larger producing sections, hence the speaker was in favor of exhausting the power of the people in providing an intelligent citizenship.

"'Good Night, Beloved,' was given by the chorus. Mr. Funk, of the board, made a short talk. There were cries of 'Rayburn,' but that gentleman declined to respond, owing to the late hour."

Dr. Vandervort's address at the dedicatory exercises was printed in the Pantagraph on January 2, 1897. It gives in a concise way much that is interesting in regard to conditions then.

Notwithstanding the fact that the committee which had been sent to visit other schools and had reported against changing the plan of supervision in 1897, the new idea called "horizontal supervision" was introduced. The supervision by schools was superseded by the supervision by grades.

Miss Medora Schaeffer was elected to supervise the primary grades; Mr. Granville B. Jeffers was chosen as supervisor of the intermediate grades; while the superintendent was to direct the work in the grammar grades. Each school principal was to teach nearly or quite every hour and each was to be paid at the rate of $50 per month and she was also to receive $3.50 per month for each teacher under her charge.

Mr. W. H. Skinner, who had been in charge of the Lincoln school, resigned after two years of service and Miss Emma Jacoby was elected to the vacancy.

The other principals at this time were:

Franklin school ..... Miss Sallie Porter
Jefferson ..... Miss Alpha Stuart
Washington ..... Mrs. Lucy M. Hyde
Emerson ..... Miss Carrie Zolman
Irving ..... Miss Belle Goudy
Edwards ..... Ira M. Ong
Raymond ..... Miss Sarah Hart
Sheridan ..... Mary T. Ward
Hawthorne ..... Orrilla Sikes

It was voted to put in the normal course of music and to employ Miss Louise Pomeroy, of Waverly, Iowa, as supervisor of music.

Supt. E. M. VanPetten made the following report to the board of education on September 24, 1897:

Gentlemen and Ladies of the Board of Education:

I am glad to be able to say that our schools were never in a better condition at this time of the year. The enrollment up to date is as follows: High School, 340; Franklin, 321; Jefferson, 296; Washington, 169; Emerson, 287; Lincoln, 311; Irving, 420; Edwards, 595; Raymond, 128; Sheridan, 348; Hawthorn, 309. Total, 3,524.

I have personally inspected each school and each school room during the eight days that school has been in session. I find teachers and pupils cheerful, earnest and industrious and in many cases enthusiastic. There are no crowded rooms and no conditions which render good work impossible or

even especially difficult. One or two rooms where discipline is lax are receiving special attention.

The work under Miss Pomeroy is well under way. The newly elected principals have entered upon their duties with zeal, and are succeeding admirably. Principals whose work has been changed are devoting themselves successfully to new duties. The supervisors are working like beavers. They usually appear at this office before eight o'clock in the morning and it is usually six o'clock in the evening before they start home. Their time during school hours is spent in the school rooms.

I wish to report that during the week's school to date, I have ordered books for indigent pupils, to the number of twenty-five. These cases are either carefully investigated by the principal of the school or by the members of the benevolent society. I have also ordered additional supplies of the regular sort when the first supply proved inadequate.

The rule of the Board concerning suspension for unexcused absence was changed by the Board recently at my request. Experience in the application of the new rule seems to me to show it to be an unwise one, I therefore request that the rule be changed back to the former reading.

The rule of the Board of Education regarding the admission of children to the first primary grade after October 1 is a good rule, but it is not known to the public. I therefore suggest that the Board direct that it be published. The rule reads as follows:

"New classes shall only be formed in the lowest grade of the primary departments at the commencement of the school year in September and in February. Children who will be six years before December 1, will be admitted on the first day, but such children cannot be received later than October 1. Children who are not six until after December 1 and those who fail to apply for admission before October 1 shall be required to wait for a new class of beginners, which will be formed about February 1st. Children who are six before April 1st will be admitted to this class if they enter before March 1st. Pupils in grades above the first will be admitted any Monday morning.

Respectfully,

E. M. VanPetten.

A case somewhat out of the ordinary came up before the board. A boy, being unable to attend school because of partial blindness and deafness, was tutored by a high school student at the direction and pay of the board.

It was at this time that the board took action in regard to the pay of teachers who were absent from their class-rooms on account of sickness or death in the family of the teacher. There was a question among members of the board as to what was right as salary for absent teachers. It was agreed that if a teacher were absent because of the sickness of said teacher that one-half of the regluar salary should be paid for a time not to exceed twenty days during the school year. It was also decided that no

salary should be allowed for absence because of sickness of members of the teacher's family, the board taking the ground that if salary were allowed in such cases it would be equivalent to hiring a nurse at the expense of the board. In case of death in the teacher's family full pay was to be allowed for a time not to exceed two days—in the case of each death. There had been before this time a feeling that one or more absented themselves when there was but a slight indisposition and that the board had at times unnecessary expense in supplying substitutes. Besides, the absence of a teacher from her classes disturbed the work of the classes a great deal.

The Woman's Club was granted the privilege of using a room in the high school building for conducting a girl's industrial school on Saturdays. Mrs. B. P. Marsh was the leader of this new education. From one hundred to two hundred girls ranging in age from four to fourteen years were instructed in the art of sewing. The work prospered as long as it continued—perhaps a year.

Mrs. Emmogene Akers sent in her resignation as member of the board in February, 1898. Her health had been poor and she found it impossible to perform the duties required. Mrs. Akers was an earnest, progressive member who felt the responsibility of her position. The board expressed in commendatory resolutions its appreciation of Mrs. Akers' services.

At the meeting on April 29, 1898, the following resolutions were adopted by the board:

Resolved, That the board proceed to elect a secretary and treasurer. That said secretary shall not be a member of this board and shall receive as compensation for services rendered, the sum of $40 a calendar month, except for the months of July and August, for which the compensation shall be $25 per month. That the services to be performed by the secretary of the board shall be the same as are set forth in the rules and regulations except as they may be modified by the action of the board. The person elected as such secretary shall also, except during the months of July and August, perform such other duties as may be incidental to the position of assistant in the office of superintendent. It shall be the duty of the person elected as secretary, except during the months of July and August, to be and remain in the office of the superintendent from 8:30 a. m. to 12:20 p. m., and from 2 p. m.

FRANCIS M. FUNK.

HEYWORTH SCHOOL.

until 5 p. m., except when obliged to be absent on business of said board.

Miss Isla B. McCarty was elected to the position of secretary and began work at once.

Mr. F. M. Funk was chosen president and Mr. Edward R. Morgan was chosen treasurer for the year. Mr. Horatio G. Bent had been chosen to succeed Mrs. Emmogene Akers, resigned. Prof. B. S. Potter was reelected and Mrs. Sue Sanders was chosen to succeed Mrs. Olive A. Hamilton.

Mr. Ira M. Ong, principal of the Emerson school, resigned to accept the superintendency of the Peru, Ill., schools. The board passed a resolution strongly endorsing him as a man, as a principal and as a teacher.

A new school building was desired in the Franklin school district to take the place of the old structure, and Superintendent E. M. Van Petten asked permission to post the following notice:

"Much has been said by patrons about the necessity of a new building for the accommodation of the Franklin school. It is alleged that the present structure is worn out; floors thin and creaking, ceilings in danger of losing plaster; blackboards unsatisfactory; the light quite insufficient, especially on dark days; the ventilation inadequate, the walls too badly constructed to admit changes to improve lighting and ventilation. Externally, the building is said to be dingy and uninviting, and much inferior to school buildings in other parts of the city. The expense of putting up a new building of ten rooms on the site of the present structure would approximate $20,000.

"The undersigned patrons of Franklin school and tax-payers of the Franklin school district respectfully petition the board of education, the mayor, and the city council to take the necessary steps to secure the erection of a new school building in said district during the summer of 1899."

"The undersigned patrons of Franklin school and tax-payers of the Franklin school district object to the erection of a new school building in said district."

The petition was signed by so many patrons that the board asked the council for an appropriation of $25,000 to erect the new structure.

June 30, 1899, J. W. Evans & Co. were awarded the contract to build the Franklin school at $19,200. Within a few days workmen were engaged in tearing down the old structure and cleaning the bricks and stacking them to be used again in the new house. Mr. Moratz was the architect.

No member of the board was more in earnest for the welfare of the schools than was President F. M. Funk, who had been on the board for more than twenty years and who was well acquainted with the history and progress of the schools. The confidence of all classes of people was his. The teachers of the city looked upon his death, after the short illness beginning in August, as a calamity to the schools. There had probably not been in the city before a death that had so large a meaning to the schools.

The funeral was attended by a very large concourse of the best citizens of Bloomington.

In Memoriam

FRANCIS M. FUNK

DECEASED SEPTEMBER 10, 1899

The members of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools, of the city of Bloomington, extend to the bereaved wife and family of our late President,

FRANCIS M. FUNK

their sincere sympathy in the sad hours following his death; and present this memorial as an expression of their sorrow, and as a testimonial of the high regard in which he was held by the Board, and by the people whose faithful servant he was.

In accordance with his wish, it was his privilege to enjoy the longest term of service in the history of the Board. He was first elected in April, 1878, and in the more than twenty-one years which followed, during six of which he acted as President, his kindly face was never absent from the meetings except in a few instances when it was unavoidable.

The fact that he was eight times successively chosen to assist in the management and direction of our public schools is conclusive evidence of the confidence placed in him by citizens, and of the faithfulness with which he discharged the duties imposed.

Practical common sense, good judgment, unselfish purpose, strict integrity, unflagging interest and devotion to duty were the splendid qualities which Mr. Funk brought to his work.

He was beloved by associates, by teachers and by pupils, and we shall sorely miss this whole-souled, kind, generous, firm and rugged man in whose hearty greeting there was ever the assurance of good cheer, and whose memory will always be to those who knew him best, a constant pleasure and a joy.

(Signed)

HORATIO G. BENT,
EDWARD R. MORGAN,
WM. A. GERKEN,
B. S. POTTER,
SUE A. SANDERS,
MILLARD LLOYD,
Board of Education.

EDWIN M. VANPETTEN,
Superintendent of Schools.

The board could not long be without an executive officer and it was decided not to hold a special election to fill the place made vacant. Mr. Horatio G. Bent was chosen to fill Mr. Funk's unexpired presidential term.

Mr. Funk had been at the head of the board of education and had directed the affairs with such success that those interested in the public schools believed his loss to be irreparable. Mr. Horatio G. Bent had been a member of the board for some years and was thoroughly acquainted with the conditions and needs of the schools. Perhaps to him more than to any other man, did President Funk look for advice and it was not a surprise to the citizens when Mr. Bent was chosen to be Mr. Funk's successor. Mr. Bent had lived in Bloomington all his life and is one of the few men who has the confidence of all classes. It is doubtful whether any business man takes a greater interest in directing his own private affairs than does Mr. Bent in the proper management of the schools.

In 1899, the building and grounds committee consisted of Mr. E. R. Morgan, Mr. William A. Gerken and Mr. Millard Lloyd. They were kept extremely busy in looking after the details of the Franklin school. The elegant building was completed in February, 1900, and was occupied during all but the first week of the second semester. It is of brick, two stories in height and having ten rooms. Its total cost was $25,041.23. Its distinctive features are wide, roomy hallways, light from the left side only, and a system of heating and ventilation which should insure a constant supply

of pure air at a uniform temperature. The building is handsome and an ornament to the northeast part of the city.

While the Franklin was building it was necessary to secure a place for the school to hold its sessions. The Hawthorne school building was used by the Hawthorne school from 8 a. m. to 12 m. and the Franklin held its sessions there from 1 p.m. to to 5 p. m. During the short days the hours were changed, the school beginning at 12:30 p. m. and closing at 4:30. Such an arrangement made progress difficult. There was great joy in both schools when the Franklin was invited to occupy its new building.

The following reports taken from the annual reports of 1898-99 and 1899 and 1900 give in a nutshell the history of those years:

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

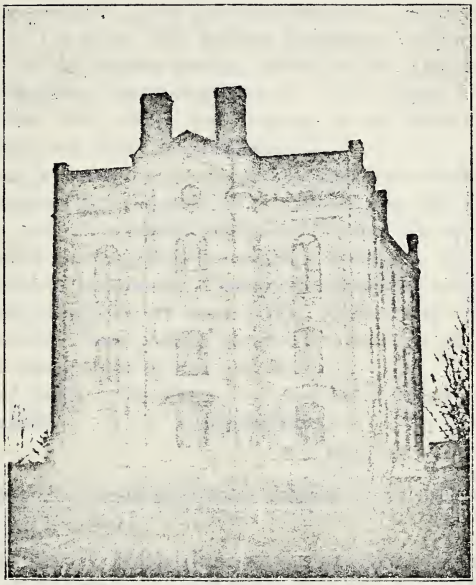
To the Superintendent:

Our high school has closed another year of earnest work, and has added to its list of graduates the names of thirteen young men and twenty-six young women. All of the departments and all of our undertakings have prospered through the united efforts of patrons, the board, faculty and pupils. The outlook for an unusually large high school in September is very good indeed.

At the close of the year 1898-1899 resignations came from several of our teachers and it was necessary to employ four who had not previously taught with us. It is comparatively easy to find those who know Latin, Greek, algebra, or any other of the high school branches, but to find that academic preparation coupled with a knowledge of *boy* and *girl* is difficult. Notwithstanding this fact, the teachers who began with us last September have proved themselves highly satisfactory.

For several years there has been in operation during much of the school year a literary society known as the Beta Eta Sigma Literary Society. It was one large society having the entire enrollment for its membership. The officers and committees were appointed by the faculty and programs were furnished for each Friday. The large enrollment gave small opportunity for individual work and real literary growth. The faculty discussed the matter and a new plan resulted. There was a debating club, an art club, a camera club, an electrical club, an astromony club, one for the study of Shakespeare, another for the study of Dickens, and still another known as the mythology club. When one became a member he was given an active part, and was responsible to the society for its performance.

Each club chose its own officers and determined its programs. A teacher became a member of the club of his choice. The plan worked admirably and it will be continued.



NO. 1 SCHOOL, BLOOMINGTON.
Site Present Franklin School.

The *Aegis*, our high school paper, has been edited and managed by pupils during the four years of its existence. It has developed literary skill and business ability and has given us a favorable acquaintance in other schools. The managers for the year just closed have reported the paper out of debt and enjoying a greater patronage than ever before. Miss Nellie Culton, the editor, and Miss Cora Stubblefield and Mr. Franklin Marquis, manager and assistant manager, respectively, deserve special mention.

The athletic association confined itself to football and basketball. The football team was so successful in winning games that the B. H. S. claimed the high school championship for Illinois, outside of Chicago. Basketball was enjoyed in the gymnasium twice a week by the boys and twice a week by the girls. The written consent of the parent or guardian was presented to the teacher having charge of the gymnasium before the privilege of admission there was granted. Mr. Angier had the direction of the boys and Miss Moore took charge of the girls. There were no serious accidents and many were benefited.

During the latter half of the year the attendance suffered an unusual number of absences for sickness. The measles and the mumps were the chief ailments, and the epidemic continued through the rest of the year.

Experience is proving that the elective system in high schools is not to be as popular as heretofore. Courses thoughtfully made out by superintendents and principals are more likely to meet the real requirements of pupils than are those choices made with less thought by high school scholars, even when aided by the parent.

I have not given up the hope that manual training will find a place in our high school. Respectfully, E. L. Boyer,

Principal of the High School.

We regret that want of space obliges us to omit the courses of study in the high school.

Early in March, 1900, the board was asked to take part in the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the city of Bloomington to be held May 3, 1900. It was decided that the schools should do what they could to help in the celebration.

In April, 1900, Mr. E. R. Morgan was succeeded by William Hempstead and Mr. William K. Bracken was chosen to fill the unexpired term of his father-in-law, Mr. F. M. Funk. Mr. Morgan had served for three years and his business ability had been of much value in the board's doings. Mr. H. G. Bent was chosen president, Miss Isla B. McCarty secretary and Mr. Millard Lloyd treasurer of the board.

The schools took part in the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Bloomington. One hundred and twenty high school boys

had drilled in military tactics until they made a fine showing in the street parade. Lodges, orders, unions, tradesmen, all took part in a grand parade. The town was gaily decorated and the city was given up to music and jollity.

In 1900, Mr. E. M. VanPetten determined to leave the schools of Bloomington in July, 1901, and he sent in the following communication:

"To the Honorable Board of Education.

"In accepting the position which you have so kindly tendered me for the ninth time, please permit me to say that at the end of the period for which you have elected me, I shall retire from the superintendency of your schools.

"I make this announcement thus early so that you may have time for deliberation in the choice of my successor.

"My reasons for this decision are of no public interest to you, beyond my belief that the position should command a higher salary.

"I thank you cordially for the many kindnesses you have shown me and shall always be glad to be held worthy of your confidence and esteem.

"I am very respectfully yours,

"EDWIN M. VAN PETTEN."

The duty of selecting a new superintendent was undertaken with the determination that Bloomington must find the best available man. Applications from some excellent candidates, and from many extremely ordinary men were received by the board. Each one's qualifications were looked into critically with but one purpose in view, viz., that of finding his merits. In February a committee of the board spent a few days at the national meeeting of superintendents of the United States, held in Chicago. At this place different candidates were interviewed and their standing among school men ascertained. Then a committee of the board visited the schools of each of the two leading candidates to determine the quality of the work done and to know just the surroundings of each and to learn the power of each superintendent to adapt himself to new environments.

At the end of perhaps nine months spent in the careful canvass of the qualities of men, Mr. J. K. Stableton, of Charleston, Ill., was unanimously elected to succeed Mr. VanPetten. Mr. Stable-

ton was graduated from the Ohio Wesleyan University, taught some years in the schools of Nebraska, took a special course in Harvard University, and had been superintendent three years at Charleston. He was mature in scholarship and in experience and had the unqualified recommendation of his former school boards and of prominent educators in Illinois.

In the spring of 1900 Miss Luella Rankin, who had been a prominent teacher in the high school for twenty years, retired from the service of the board. Mr. Granville B. Jeffers, who had been in the service of the board for five years, two as principal of the Irving school, and had just completed his third year as supervisor of intermediate grades, resigned that he might attend the Leland Stanford University.

On June 19, 1900, Bloomington was visited by a disastrous fire. It began in a building on Monroe street just south of the city hall at near midnight. The wind was from the northeast and the flames were soon beyond control of the fire companies. The buildings from Monroe south to Washington street between Main and East streets were entirely destroyed with the exception of the postoffice building, on Jefferson and East streets. The block west of Main street between Monroe and Jefferson, the court house bounded by Main, Jefferson, Washington and Center streets, the Windsor hotel, the largest in the city, together with the large barn west of it on Jefferson and Madison streets were consumed.

The structures north of the Windsor, except at the corner of Monroe and Center, the buildings west of the court house on the corner of Jefferson and Center streets were all a prey to the flames. Fire companies from Springfield and Peoria came to the aid of Bloomington and the conflagration was finally extinguished.

In July, Mr. William A. Gerken, a member of the board, had a severe stroke of paralysis and it seemed for a time that he would be left forever without the use of his muscles. Happily for him and for his friends, he gradually came into health again, but it was deemed best that his request to be released from service on the board be granted. He continued on the board until January 25, 1901, when he resigned. Mr. Gerken was one of the most conscientious workers, always willing to sacrifice his own interests when the good of the schools demanded it. His resignation was accepted with resolutions of regret.

The following resolution explains Mr. Gerken's relations to the schools at the time of his resignation.

Mr. William A. Gerken:

DEAR SIR AND FRIEND:—With deep regret we accept your resignation as a member of our school board, and only comply with your request from the fact that your illness renders it impossible for you to meet with us in the discharge of your official duties.

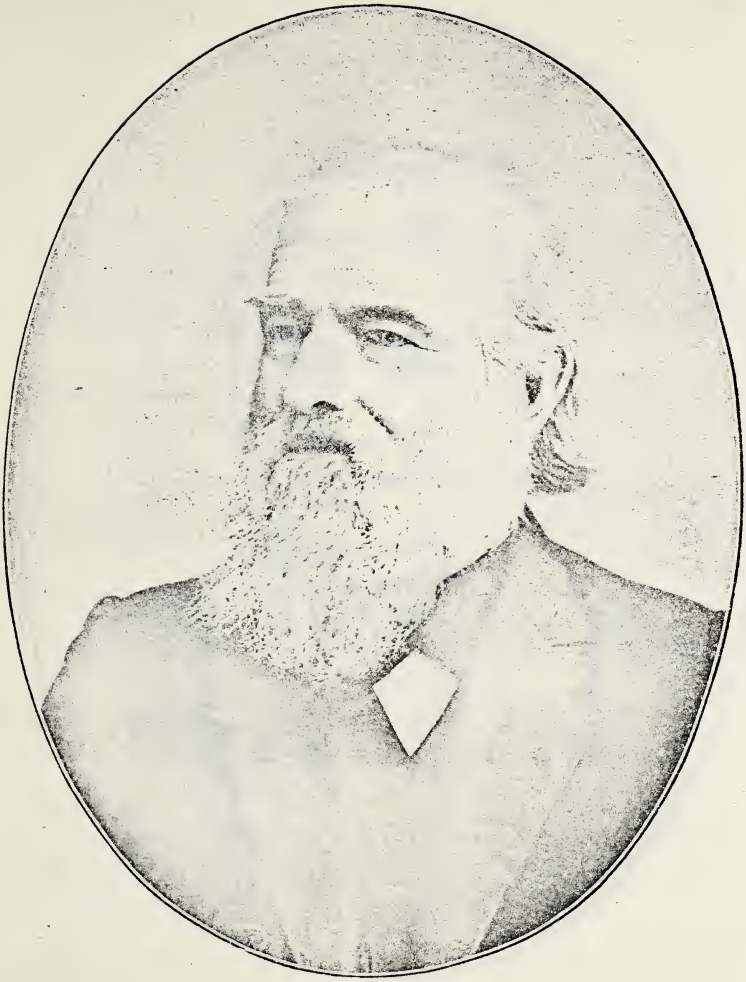
It gives us much pleasure to express to you our high appreciation of your services. In all appointments we have found you ever faithful and true to your convictions of the right, careful, earnest and decided in your opinions, yet always cheerful in carrying out the will of the majority. We believe you have been a stanch friend of the public schools of this city, and that your inability to serve longer in this most responsible position is not only regretted by our board but by every child and patron of the schools of Bloomington. May the rest from the duties of office be an impetus to your speedy recovery to usual health and happiness.

MRS. SUE A. SANDERS,
PROF. B. S. POTTER,
MILLARD LLOYD.

Mr. Henry C. Behr was elected to succeed Mr. Gerken, resigned, and Prof. B. S. Potter and Mrs. Sue A. Sanders were elected to the board, all in the spring of 1901. Mr. H. G. Bent succeeded himself as president and Mr. William K. Bracken took Mr. Lloyd's place as treasurer of the board of education.

Mr. J. K. Stableton commenced his duties as superintendent in August and Miss Cora Hamilton, who had been chosen supervisor of the primary grades to succeed Miss Medora Schaffer, assumed the duties of her office in September.

As early as 1901 the Emerson school began to plan for a new building. In October active operations were begun to secure the action of the board looking to an appropriation for the structure. The Edwards and Irving districts felt that new buildings were needed to replace their old ones. Meetings were held and conditions discussed. Petitions were circulated and largely signed in each ward. All were agreed that new buildings were needed in each and it was easy to arrive at the conclusion that but one of the three could be built during the next year. Committees representing the respective wards met and agreed (1) that but one building was possible. 2. That the board should decide which of the three should be erected first and that the three districts would all abide by the decision.



JOHN ADAMS JACKMAN.

MRS. SARAH F. JACKMAN.

At the present writing (March, 1902) it looks as though a new building would be built on the site of the Edwards during this coming summer.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FROM 1857 TO 1902.

C. P. Merriman, April 7, 1857.
R. O. Warriner, April 7, 1857.
O. T. Reeves, April 7, 1857
E. R. Roe, April 7, 1857.
Eliel Barber, April 7, 1857.
Samuel Gallagher, April 7, 1857.
Henry Richardson, April 7, 1857.
Dr. McCann Dunn, Oct 9, 1857.
W. M. Hatch, August 26, 1861.
C. Wakefield, July, 1861.
L. W. Capen, Aug. 22, 1861.
M. W. Packard, April, 1863.
J. W. Maxwell, April, 1863.
C. W. Holder, April, 1869.
Reuben Andrus, April, 1863.
Dr. J. A. Sewall, October, 1865.
John Hull, April, 1869.
C. E. Reed, April, 1868.
H. N. Price, April, 1863.
O. Rugg, February, 1868.
Jesse A. Willson, October, 1868.
J. A. Jackman, April, 1869.
Dr. B. P. Marsh, July, 1863.
M. Swann, April, 1869.
Thos. F. Mitchell, April, 1869.
S. S. Parke, April, 1869.
Jacob Jacoby, April, 1871.
E. M. Prince, April, 1873.
Peter Folsom, April, 1873.
Georgiana Trotter, April, 1874.
E. H. Rood, April, 1875.
J. E. McClun, April, 1875.
T. J. Bunn, April, 1876.
F. M. Funk, April, 1878.
A. E. Stevenson, April, 1878.
J. H. Rowell, April, 1879.
L. B. Thomas, April, 1880.
I. N. Phillips, 1885.
J. P. Fell, 1886.
*Geo. A. Tryner, 1888.
L. H. Kerrick, 1888.
R. B. Porter, 1888.
Dr. D. S. Dyson, 1890
Dr. R. Wunderlich, 1891.
T. J. Burns, 1891.
J. L. Beath, 1892.
Andrew Quackenbush, 1892.
Horatio G. Bent, 1893.
W. A. Gerken, 1893.
Mrs. Emmogéne Akers, 1894.
Dr. F. C. Vandervort, 1894.
August Boecker, 1894.
B. S. Potter, 1895.
Calvin Rayburn, 1895.
Edward R. Morgan, 1897.
Sue A. Sanders, 1898.
William Hempstead, 1900.
William K. Bracken, 1900.
Millard Lloyd, 1900.
Jesse Hoffman, 1902.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN THE PRESIDENTS OF THE BOARD.

C. P. Merriman, six months.
E. R. Roe, one and one-half years.
E. Barber, seven and one-half years.
M. W. Packard, one and one-half years.
J. A. Jackman, one year and four months.

*Died January 21, 1890. Judge C. D. Myers filled the unexpired term.

Jacob Jacoby, from July, 1873, to April, 1892.
Dr. F. C. Vandervort, from May 4, 1896, to May, 1897.
F. M. Funk, 1892, to September 10, 1899, excepting during 1896-7.
Horatio G. Bent, 1899 to 1902.

SUPERINTENDENTS, 1857 TO 1902.

Daniel Wilkins (salary unknown), October 9, 1857, to April 4, 1859.

Gilbert Thayer, salary $1,000, April 4 to September, 1860.

General Ira J. Bloomfield, salary $1,000, September, 1860, to September, 1861.

No superintendent during 1861 and 1862.

C. P. Merriman, salary $300 (employed one-half the time), 1862-3.

J. H. Burnham, salary $500 (eight months' session), 1863-4; resigned July 2, 1864.

John Monroe (salary unknown), 1864-5.

John Goudy, salary $1,000 for 1865-6, $1,100 for 1866-7.

A. H. Thompson, salary $1,000, 1867-8; resigned April, 1868.

S. M. Etter, July, 1868, October, 1872. Salary as follows: First year, $1,800; second year, $2,200; third year, $2,400; fourth year, $2,500.

S. D. Gaylord, salary $2,000, October, 1872, to August, 1874.

Sarah E. Raymond, August 5, 1874, to August 4, 1892. Salary $1,400 to $1,800 a year.

Edwin M. VanPetten, July, 1892, to 1901. Salary, first year, $1,500; second year, $2,000.

John K. Stableton, 1902, salary, first year, $2,250; second year, $2,500.

PRINCIPALS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL.

J. A. Johnson, elected October, 1857, retired; salary, $65 a month.

E. P. Clark, elected March, 1858, retired; salary, $65 a month.

H. M. Kellogg, elected April, 1859, retired August, 1861; salary, $70 per month.

Gilbert Thayer, elected April, 1859, retired August, 1861, salary, $100 per month.

Ira J. Bloomfield, elected August 25, 1859, retired August, 1861, salary $60 per month.

F. Rowe, elected July, 1861, retired 1862, salary, $50 per month.

John Hull, elected July, 1862, retired June, 1864, salary, $60 per month.

J. F. Goudy, elected July, 1864, retired June, 1869, salary $100 to $150 per month.

B. P. Marsh, elected 1868, retired June, 1873, salary $200 per month.

Sarah E. Raymond, elected July, 1873, retired August 1, 1874.

Susan E. Hale, elected July, 1874, retired October, 1875.

Harriet E. Dunn, elected July, 1875, retired 1883.

Gideon S. Draper, elected August, 1883, retired June, 1884.

J. W. Henninger, elected June, 1884, retired June, 1888.
A. E. Whitten, elected June, 1884, retired June, 1891.
Edward Manley, elected June, 1891.
F. B. Spaulding, 1893.
Edwin L. Boyer, 1896.

PRINCIPALS OF THE WARD SCHOOLS.

No. 1 (Franklin)—Miss May Sherwin, Miss Sallie Porter, Miss Louise Seibert.

No. 2 (Edwards)—Miss M. Jones, Miss B. F. Goudy, Ira M. Ong, Miss Orilla Sikes.

No. 3 (Irving)—Miss N. P. Johnson, Miss Ada Laughlin, Miss Florence Richardson, Miss Hattie Morehouse, Miss Olive Hudson, Miss Jeanette Lang, Granville B. Jeffers, Belle F. Goudy.

No. 4 (Emerson)—Miss Anna English, Miss Adda P. Wertz, Miss M. L. Gardner, Mrs. Reuben Davis, Mrs. Mary S. Sweeney, James W. Tavenner, Miss Carrie Zolman.

No. 5 (Hawthorne)—Miss Octavia Wetmore, Miss Mary Pike, Miss Frances Maroney, Miss Ida Gmehlin, Miss Orilla Sikes, Mrs. Lucy M. Hyde.

No. 6. (Sheridan)—Miss Fannie P. Loehr, Mrs. M. H. Terry, Miss Mary T. Ward.

No. 7—Miss Maggie Elkins, Miss Loveday Nelson. Discontinued.

Washington—Miss Ada Laughlin, Miss Mary Savary, Mrs. Lucy M. Hyde, Miss Jennie Zolman.

Jefferson Street—Miss Mary Savary, Miss Adda Wertz, Miss Alpha Stuart.

Market Street—Mrs. Reuben Davis, Miss Arvilla Case, Miss Louise Van Buskirk.

Raymond—Miss Nellie Fitzgerald, Miss Medora Schaeffer, Miss Sarah Hart, Miss Judith Penner.

Lincoln (old No. 7)—Miss Emma Jacoby, Miss Lillie Dexter.

The Normal School District.

BY ENOCH A. FRITTER.

The records of the Normal school district are quite complete from 1870 to the present time. For its history previous to 1870 I am chiefly indebted to William McCambridge, W. O. Davis, John Dodge, Henry McCormick, Mrs. Wesley Grinstead and E. C. Hewett.

Before the act to incorporate the town of Normal was in force, the district was known as "School District No. 2 of the Town of Normal."

Mr. McCambridge remembers distinctly the meeting at which the name "Town of Normal" was adopted for the township. At a previous meeting the names "Rustic" and "Rural" had been proposed and rejected. The name "Normal" was adopted in honor of the proposed Normal University, soon to be located in the territory.

The first public school held in the district was opened in 1856 in a small frame building, owned by Jesse Fell, but built by John Reece, to be used as a shop for the workmen while erecting Mr. Fell's residence.

The old school building, now used as a dwelling house, is still in a fair state of preservation. It formerly stood on the southeast corner of Broadway and Third streets, but it now stands just south of the Chicago & Alton tracks at the corner of Broadway and Fourth streets.

The lumber for this building was shipped by Mr. Fell from Ullin, Ill. The frames and floor are of hard oak, the siding of poplar, and the seats were made of red cypress.

School opened for the first time in September, 1856, with Mary Shannon as teacher in charge. P. C. Lyman and Julia Brown followed with short terms each. Mr. McCambridge speaks in highest terms of Miss Brown's teaching. He vividly recalls, among many other things, one lesson that she gave in history about

NORMAL VILLAGE HIGH SCHOOL, NORMAL.

the siege of Delhi. She brought before her class a picture of the charge upon the city, and using this picture as a point of interest and illustration, she taught most effectively the history of the siege.

In the fall of 1858, the board of directors, consisting of Jesse Fell, president; John R. Dodge, clerk, and George Thomson, employed W. O. Davis for teacher. He taught in the public school a six months' term, beginning in September of that year. During this and the preceding year, pupils attended from a scope of territory much more extended than that of the present district limits.

The following year a private school was held in Mr. Fell's library. A part of this time Mr. Davis was teacher; but he soon went west and was succeeded by Miss Mary Daniells, a graduate of Mt. Holyoke Seminary. It seems that the public school was abandoned at the close of the term taught by Mr. Davis, and was not again in session until the fall of 1860, when all the children of the district, with many others, entered the model department of the Normal University. This school district No. 2 was merged into the model school and remained a part of that school until the state board of education and the board of directors of the district dissolved the union, because there were too many pupils in the district to be advantageously cared for by the Normal University under the system then existing.

In 1858 within what is now the corporate limits of Normal, Mr. Davis says there were not more than a dozen families.

The first commencement exercises of the model high school were held in 1865 and William McCambridge was the first person to appear on that program—Gertrude Case, Clara Fell and himself had entered the model school from Miss Daniell's class; and these three, with Robert McCart, Charles L. Capen, Hosea Howard and Howard C. Crist, composed the first graduating class of the model school. The history of the model school of the Normal University from 1860 to 1868 includes the history of the Normal public school for that time.

Dr. Hewett says that for the entire period of that union with the Normal University, the board of directors consisted of E. C. Hewett, president; John R. Dodge, clerk, and J. Handley Stewart. During this period school was held in the Normal University build-

ing, the university receiving from the district a stated sum annually. The president of the university nominated the teachers and managed the school in the interests of the practice department of the state school.

Foreseeing that the district must soon make provisions ample for the education of the pupils within its limits, on August 7, 1865, at a properly called annual meeting for the election of school officers in district No. 2, it was voted to buy lots and build a school house. Under this authority, the directors subsequently contracted with W. F. Bushnell to build a school house for $13,600. Three lots had been previously purchased at the corner of Ash and School streets for $600. The building then erected is still the main part of the high school building.

In September, 1867, the grammar and intermediate departments of the model school were transferred to this new building with John W. Cook as principal.

On the dissolution of the union in 1868, Henry McCormick was elected principal of the public schools. He was ably assisted by Ruth E. Barker, Emma Robinson, Miss Embree, Maria Arms and Ida Laughlin.

In the meantime the "Town of Normal," through the untiring efforts of Messrs. Hovey and Fell, had received a special charter. Article VIII of that charter constitutes the "special school charter" of Normal school district. At the first election held under the provisions of that charter, on March 18, 1867, the following board of education was elected, viz.: W. B. Smith, O. M. Coleman, Thomas S. Underhill, J. A. Sewell, John R. Dodge. Under the management of this board of education and their successors in office, the schools have been judiciously administered and brought to their present excellent state of efficiency.

The distinctive features of the charter are:

1. A board of education of five members, one member elected each year, and holding office for five years.

2. The board is empowered as a corporate body to buy and sell real estate, to issue bonds, to make rules and regulations, and to erect school buildings.

3. The limits of the district are self-adjusting, being always the same as the corporate limits of the "Town of Normal."

4. The board of education is entirely independent of the township trustees, but are directly responsible to the city council and the county superintendent of schools.

The school house erected in 1866 has been enlarged and remodeled and now constitutes the high school. Additional houses have been built. One on the corner of Mulberry and School streets in May, 1884, and enlarged and remodeled in 1900. One in the west side district on Kern street in 1892. And in 1901, September 1, the practice school building of the Normal University, by terms of the union, came under the control of the board of education and is used by the public schools.

The following persons have served as superintendents of the Normal public schools: Henry McCormick, 1868; Aaron Gove, 1869; Joseph Carter, 1874; A. C. Butler, 1878; A. M. Scott, 1880; J. V. McHugh, 1882; John W. Gibson, 1883; David A. Reed, 1884; Mrs. J. A. Miller, 1885; John Glotfelter, 1886; C. W. Harriman, 1887; Mrs. Hattie Hoffman, 1888; E. B. Smith, 1891; E. A. Fritter, 1896.

The idea of a union of the public schools with the Normal University has always held a prominent place in the minds of our people. As before stated, from 1860 to 1868 they were united quite closely. Again in 1889 and 1890 practice teaching by pupil-teachers was carried on in the primary department of the public schools under the general supervision of Mrs. Lida B. McMurry, but on her election to a position in the university, the practice work was discontinued in the public school.

In April, 1901, by a vote of the district, a definite union with the Normal school was effected on the conditions set forth in the following articles:

1. The model school of the university shall become a part of the public school system of Normal.

2. The pupils now attending in grades 1 to 8 in the model school and in the East Side schools of the town of Normal shall be distributed among twelve rooms or grades, the pupils to remain regularly two terms, or twenty-four weeks, in each grade.

3. The twelve grades shall be housed, six (or seven) in the model school, the rest in the public school buildings.

4. The grades in the model school building shall be grades, or rooms, 1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 12, or such other rooms as may be agreed upon by the superintendent of the public schools and the president of the university.

5. The high school department of the model school shall be abandoned, but the university shall be permitted to furnish teachers for six high school classes to be selected by the city superintendent and such student-teachers to be approved by him. In such classes lesson plans shall be submitted to the high school authorities and shall be under their supervision and direction. Any such teacher may be deprived of his class at any time if his work be not satisfactory to the superintendent.

6. The university shall furnish janitor, fuel, repairs and ordinary school supplies for the grades housed in the model school building. The public school board shall furnish the same for the grades in the public school buildings.

7. The public school board shall pay the teachers in the twelve rooms salaries according to the uniform scale, it being understood that said uniform scale may provide for regular increases with extended service.

8. The university may be permitted to use the grades in the model school building and one or two grades as needed in the public schools as practice schools.

9. In each room so used as a practice school the teachers shall be paid by the university such additional sum as may be necessary to secure persons able to supervise and direct the work of student teachers in the most thorough manner. Such additional salary shall not be less than $27.50 per month. The university shall not be bound by this section to pay more than $400 per year additional salary to any critic teacher.

10. No student shall be permitted to teach in the practice school except members of senior class or persons whose general experience has eminently fitted them for teaching.

11. At a date not later than April 1 the university authorities shall notify the public school board what grades the university shall wish to use the following year as practice schools.

12. In all grades used as practice schools the teachers shall be selected by the concurrent action of the state board and of the public school board. In all grades not used as practice schools the public school board shall have exclusive right to select the teacher.

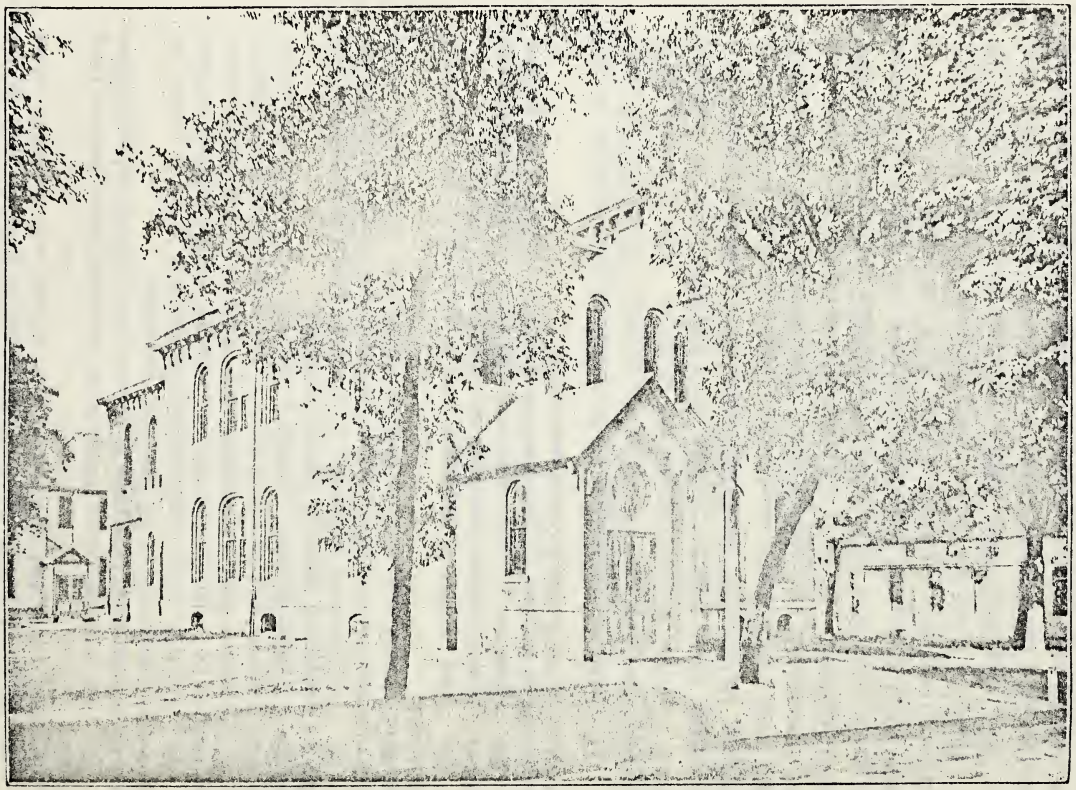
13. The course of study shall be prepared by the president of the university and the superintendent of schools and submitted to the public school board for amendment and adoption.

14. Rules and regulations relating to the rights and obligations of parents and pupils, reports, discipline, promotions and all other matters of a general character shall be made by the public school board.

15. The university shall have power to make necessary regulations in regard to the use of the university property and in regard to the instruction and program in the practice school.

16. All text books that pupils shall be required to buy shall be prescribed by the public school authorities.

17. If copies of such regularly adopted text-books are needed by indigent children they shall be furnished by the public school board.



NORTH SCHOOL, NORMAL, NO. 3.

18. The school year in the public school shall be divided into terms in conformity with the three regular terms of the university calendar.

19. Tuition in all grades shall be free to all residents of Normal.

20. Rates of tuition for non-resident pupils shall be fixed by the public school board, and such tuition shall be paid into the public school treasury.

21. All pupils attending the grades in the model school building shall have the privileges of the campus, of the university library and gymnasium under such regulations as the university may adopt.

22. The high school pupils shall be permitted to use a portion of the campus for a playground and one hour per day of physical culture in the gymnasium under the supervision of the teacher of physical culture on such terms as may be agreed upon by the president of the university and the city superintendent, providing such privileges shall not conflict with the paramount rights of Normal students.

23. The university instructors in music, drawing and physical culture shall supervise the work in the various grades of the Normal public schools. One-third of their time shall be thus at the disposal of the public school authorities.

24. These articles of agreement may be amended by the concurrent action of the public school board and the state board of education.

25. Either party to this agreement may cause the same to terminate on June 30 of any year by giving written notice to the other party at least six months prior to the proposed termination.

It would be interesting to trace the various changes in the course of study for the Normal public schools, but the limited space at our disposal will not permit me to do so. The following brief statement must suffice: Under the administrations of Superintendents McCormick, Gove and Carter, the school was brought to a high state of efficiency, an excellent four-year high school course was formulated and maintained. The schools were well graded and disciplined. In fact, the schools have always been good, and the grade work of a high degree of excellence; but there have been times when, owing to financial conditions, the high school course did not extend over a period of more than two years' work.

Recently there has been a steady progress in every department. In 1895, Superintendent Smith recommended and secured the adoption of a three years' course for the high school with the idea, not only of improving the schools, but of having the high school placed on the accredited list of the University of Illinois. In that move he was most ably seconded by Messrs. H. J. Scheaffer, W. P. McMurry, C. W. Eyestone, Stephen Gipson and Mrs. Keady,

members of the board at that time. But before the results of these well planned efforts could be realized, Superintendent Smith resigned to enter upon a course of study in the University of Chicago.

E. A. Fritter was elected superintendent to succeed Mr. Smith. He immediately began to push and enlarge upon the progressive work already begun. Called by President Alspaugh to confer with the board of education in May, he recommended the fitting up of a laboratory and the purchase of a suitable library. The board heartily responded and appropriated a handsome sum for the purchase of apparatus, which was soon properly installed in the well-equipped laboratory just completed as an addition to the old high school building.

Early in 1897 the school was duly accredited to the freshman year of the University of Illinois and Lake Forest University as well as several colleges of good standing.

In the summer of the same year the board appropriated $500 for library supplies, which were duly purchased.

On the abandonment of the Normal city library in the spring of 1900, the books suitable for the public school were donated to the public school library. About this same time, a small, select library of some fifty or sixty books was placed in each room of the grades. The public schools now own about 2,000 volumes of most excellent books.

In the spring of 1901 the board of education adopted English and Latin scientific high school courses, covering four years of study.

The total enrollment of the schools exceeds 950 pupils. The enrollment in the high school for the present term is 135.

The high rank of the school is shown by the fact that the school holds the athletic championship of McLean county for 1901, and that it also holds the championship cup of the State Oratorical Association for the same year. The winning oration in the state contest was delivered by James Veach, aged 15 years, who received the unanimous vote of the judges on both composition and delivery.

The present board of education is progressive, and alert to the interests of the school. In addition to improvements already mentioned, they have done much to improve the condition of buildings and grounds, and they employ only the very best teachers.

Below is given the board of education and present corps of teachers:

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Wesley Grinstead, president, term expires 1905.
J. B. Adam, term expires 1903.
Albert Skinner, term expires 1904.
W. H. Gardner, term expires 1906.
John L. Boling, term expires 1907.
E. A. Fritter, clerk.

TEACHERS—1901-1902.

Superintendent—E. A. Fritter, A. M.

High School—Charles Rice, B. S., principal and teacher of mathematics; Alice J. Patterson, teacher of science; Frances M. Iliff, teacher of Latin, Drawing and English; Fred J. Smith, B. S., teacher of German, History and English.

THE GRADES.

Practice School Building—Frank S. Bogardus, principal and critic teacher twelfth grade; Eleanor Hampton, critic teacher, eleventh grade; Jessie H. Cunningham, critic teacher, fourth grade; Will H. Johnson, critic teacher, third grade; Lura M. Eyestone, critic teacher, second grade; Anna G. King, critic teacher, first grade.

High School Building—Maude Corson, teacher, tenth grade; Rose A. Bland, critic teacher, ninth grade.

North Building—Olive Hunting, teacher, eighth grade; Katie L. Foster, teacher, seventh grade; Jessie H. Dillon, critic teacher, sixth grade; Belle Fairfield, teacher, fifth grade.

West Side Building—Adam Hummel, principal; Annetta B. Cooper, primary.

Special Teachers—Elizabeth Mavity, supervisor of practice; Clarissa E. Ela, supervisor of drawing; F. W. Westhoff, supervisor of music; B. C. Edwards, supervisor of physical culture.

Janitors—N. McCulloch, high school building; Levi Bradley, practice school building; Fred Miller, north school building; Adam Hummel, west school building.

The Heyworth School District.

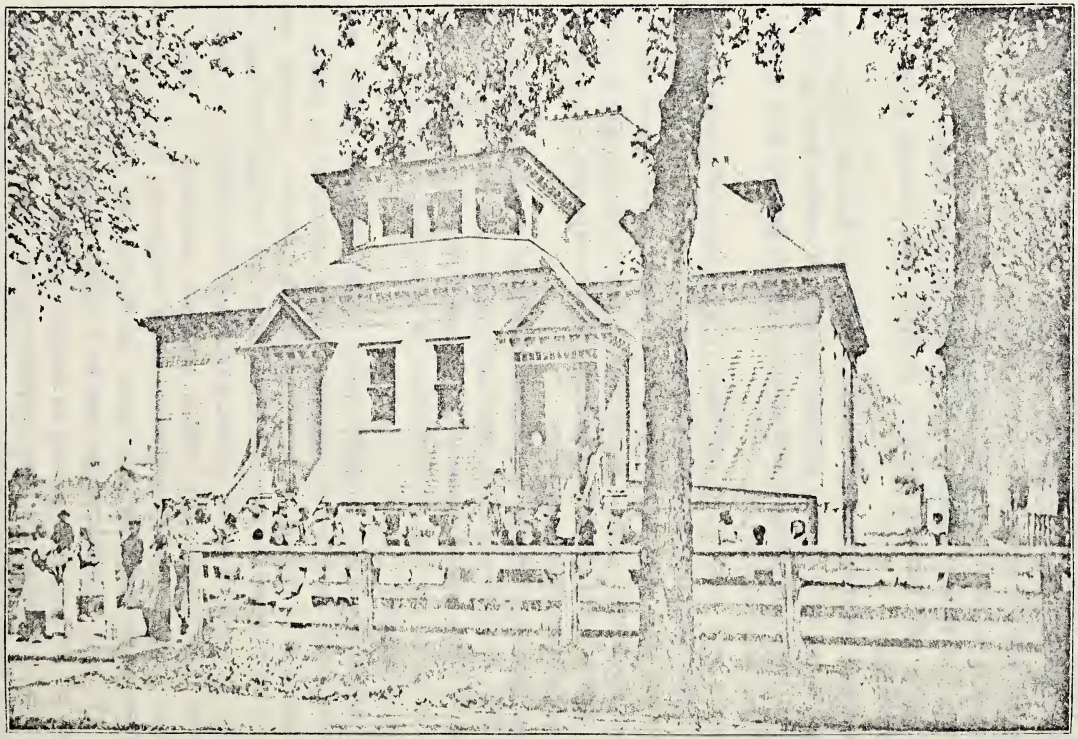
BY F. H. HILL.

Within the boundaries of what now constitute the Heyworth school district, we have the following historic record:

In the year 1838, after the sturdy pioneers had laid the lines for future homes, their attention was directed to the object of providing for the instruction of their children, and we are under obligation for the following information to the boys of those years whose names we gladly give, and although now old men themselves, their memory in these matters is tenacious and their "fond recollections" are authentic and filled with many pleasing reminiscences which we cannot record for want of space in the historical pages. These are the names of a few of the boys of those days: J. W. Funk, H. A. Karr, J. E. Wakefield, Joseph and A. C. Martin, who are yet living.

The first pioneer "academy" was a hewed log house north and east of the present Funk home; it was considered a model building for the time with its large fire place, puncheon floor, neatly hewed slabs with legs were used for seats and desks. Such men as Jesse Funk, Thomas O. Rutledge, Campbell Wakefield, George Martin, were sponsors for this first enterprise. Thomas Dunham was the first to wield the birch and was succeeded by the following teachers: Miss Mary Elder, William Leeper, J. W. Burrows and others.

The second educational Mecca was the double cabin vacated by Campbell Wakefield, near the old homestead, and the buxom lads and lassies were coached by a Mr. Conklin for one term, and William Reeves for another term. For some reason the educational institutions were migratory and the next term of school was held in the large barn on the J. E. Wakefield homestead, now used by B. A. Steward. There was but one term here and Isaac Hougham,



WEST SIDE SCHOOL, NORMAL, NO. 4.

a sturdy character, who divided his time between taming the wild prairie and wielding the birch, helped with the hard "sums," often appearing as a bootless as well as sockless professor.

The next literary center was in a frame building belonging to Jesse Funk and brought in from the prairie and located in the western border of the Funk timber, about a mile east of Heyworth. Around this place cling many exciting memories of days of "hooky," in which many of our now grave and dignified citizens were wont to chase rabbits and other game and the next day receive their reward in the way of an old-fashioned "licken." Among the masters whose frowns and commands struck terror in the hearts of the guilty were Walter Willson, Peter Folsom, Joseph Macon and William Joslin.

Later we crossed the Kickapoo in the Sisco cabin and soon after in a new school house on Dr. Noble's land. The happy boys and girls congregated while such well-known men as Dr. Harrison Noble, Samuel J. Reader and others gave them a new inspiration of life and a thirst for knowledge.

The gradual increase in population made another school house imperative and in 1853 a new building was erected on the I. Vanordstrand farm, and was known as the Locust Grove school, and in this school modern text-books and ideas were used. Among the instructors here were J. R. Burrows, O. C. Rutledge, Emma Elder, Maggie Leeper and others.

In 1858 this building was removed to the eastern part of Heyworth, where the house of William Willis now stands, and was used as a school room until 1866, at which time the present district was incorporated.

With this removal, another building was erected, known as the Reader school, opposite the Frank Romine residence. This building was moved to Heyworth also in 1866. In 1863 a new building was provided for a district embracing the western side of Heyworth, and the first teacher was a Mr. Austin and the second Mr. James. This was also absorbed by the Heyworth school district in 1866, but remains in its old location, the home of W. W. Williams.

We now come to the present incorporated district, whose promoters were C. Wakefield, Dr. H. Noble, Samuel Hill, John Kelley,

I. Vanordstrand, D. Laughlin, M. Millinns, and E. Philbrook, the latter seven being named as trustees in the charter.*

It was at once organized as a graded school with M. G. W. Glover as principal. Many of the young men just out of the army were given an opportunity for taking up their interrupted work, and large attendance was at once assured; and from that time until the present many of the best teachers in central Illinois have gone forth, while ministers, lawyers, doctors, literary and newspaper men are among its alumni. In 1898 a new and elegant brick building was erected at a cost of about $14,000, which will be ample for many years to come. The building committee was composed of Drs. W. Hill and Miller. There are but two of the original board living—John Kelley, now in Kansas, and Mr. Philbrook. The present board is C. C. Bunn, William Deleno, F. L. Wakefield, F. H. Hill, H. Austin, R. Moran and Joseph Brown.

The present corps of teachers are C. C. Colwell, principal; Mary Rutledge, Nellie Moran, Emma Garst, Laura Horr, assistants.

The Kickapoo Union School District.

BY JOSEPH B. WEAVER.

The Kickapoo Union school district was established by a special act of the legislature, passed March 31, 1869, and which declares "that no territory shall ever be taken therefrom except by act of the legislature." The district embraces about ten sections of land, six of which are in Downs, and four in Old Town township. The school house is a handsome, two-story brick structure containing four school rooms. At the present but three teachers

*This district contains about 6338 acres, a little less than ten sections. It was organized under a special charter of the legislature of Illinois March 20, 1867. This school district and the Kickapoo Union School District having been incorporated by special act of the legislature, it has been thought best to have them specially mentioned in this history.

are employed. The school is under the control of a board of education of six members, who under the authority conferred by the provisions of the special act, exercise the combined powers of directors and school trustees. The district has its own school fund and school treasurer, who is appointed by the board of education. How this peculiar organization came to exist will be narrated later in this article. For a time there was some dissatisfaction manifested because of the distance some of the children of the district had to travel in order to attend the school, but the superior work done in the school has gradually overcome opposition, and few, if any, would now favor changing the boundaries of the district.

The first school within the limits of the district was taught by William Johnston during the summer of 1838, in a primitive log school house which stood in the hill one-half mile northeast of the village of Downs, and just across the line in Old Town township. A few remain who attended this early country school. Amongst the number is Dr. Samuel Bishop, John W. Savidge and J. B. Weaver, now residents of Bloomington, and also Henry C. Bishop and Mrs. Polly G. Cowden, of Downs. A year or two later a six months' summer school was taught in this building by Rev. Robert D. Taylor, a minister of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Soon after this time, probably in 1842, a more pretentious frame school building was erected on the township line on the bluff just west of where the Big Four railroad now crosses the Kickapoo creek. This was known as Spring school house, and attained notoriety from the fact that for a number of years the Methodist denomination held annual camp-meetings in the beautiful grove immediately adjacent to the school house grounds. This building was erected by subscriptions and voluntary labor, as at that time there was no law giving power to levy and collect taxes for such purposes. Special mention should be made here of John Price, William Bishop and Elias H. Wall, who were active promoters of this laudable public enterprise. Some of the teachers who taught here more than half a century ago are yet alive. Of this number is John J. Price and Dr. Samuel Bishop. After the free school system went into effect, a new and more commodious building took the place of the old one, which had done noble service in its time. This was probably in 1856, or it may have been as late as 1858.

School was regularly maintained here until 1869, at which time the Danville, Urbana, Bloomington & Pekin railroad was being constructed and the survey having located the road in part upon the school house lot, the selection of a new school house site became necessary. About this time a union district had been formed by consolidating the original district with the school district to the southward in Downs township. As the center of the new district thus formed would be east of the Kickapoo creek, some opposition was developed and intimations made looking to the disruption of the district as then constituted. To avert this action by the school trustees which would have been disastrous to the best interests of the new district, a meeting was called to devise measures for its protection. The result of the meeting was a determination to secure if possible an act of incorporation by the state legislature which should take from the school trustees the power to change the boundary lines of the district. The legislature being then in session, a representative was selected who went at once to Springfield and succeeded in having a bill presented incorporating the district under the name of the "Kickapoo Union School District." The bill was introduced in the senate by General John McNulta, and after some local opposition in the way of a remonstrance, the bill was finally passed. In June, 1869, a special election was held which by a majority vote fixed the new school house in what is now the village of Downs and voted the sum of $2,000 for the erection of a new school house. A two-story frame building with two rooms was erected, in which school was taught the following fall and winter. The first teachers employed to teach in the new school were J. W. Richardson, now of Tonica, Ill., and Miss Mary Hood. During the twenty-one years of its operation, the work done by the school has fully met the most sanguine expectations of its early friends and supporters. The first building erected having proven inadequate to meet the growing demands of the district, in 1895 the present edifice was erected, which meets all present demands and is a credit to the people of the district.

Early Schools in Money Creek.

BY REV. W. R. BISHOP, PORTLAND, OREGON.

On the last day of August, 1836, W. G. Bishop arrived with his family on the farm now occupied by Rev. P. W. Bishop, and which he had previously purchased from Jacob Spawr. During the winter of 1836 and '37, W. F. Bishop taught school in the north room of a double cabin which stood on a gentle rise on the west side of the slough, emptying into Money creek west of the cemetery and near where the residence of the late John Moats now stands. Isaac Priest and family occupied the south room of the cabin. The cabin was built after the approved plan of the times, with two rooms built of round logs the same height, with "entry" of sixteen feet between, and all covered over under one continuous roof, ribs, clapboards and weight poles. The architecture was simple if not elegant.

It was during this term of Mr. Bishop's school that the long remembered "sudden change" of December occurred. Your writer has a lively remembrance of the day. The early part of the day had been unusually warm for the season, with slight mist of rain. Not rain enough to prevent the boys taking off their coats while playing "bull pen" at noon. When school was called at 1 o'clock, John Moats and George Archer called Mr. Bishop's attention to a very dark cloud rapidly rising in the southwest. In a few minutes the storm was on and at 4 o'clock the whole surface of the earth was "ice bound."

In September, 1837, Mr. Austin White, by contract with the settlers, took charge of the school, and occupied the same room where the school had been conducted the previous winter until November 1, 1837.

During the month of October of this year the new school house was built on the north bank of Money creek on lands owned by Nathan Busick. That new school house was a wonder in its day. It was eighteen feet square, one story high, built of hewn logs, with sawed lumber for a floor instead of puncheon; had four glass windows of nine lights each, two on the south and two on the north,

properly spaced so they stood two and two opposite each other, with door between the two on the south facing the classical stream, Money creek. Major Dickenson, whose liberality is yet remembered by men and women who have seen their "three score and ten," furnished the room with an ample stove at a cost of $16.

About November 1, the house was completed, furnished and made ready for occupation, and Mr. White dedicated the building by moving learners from the cabin on the hill, heretofore mentioned, and calling them to order in the "new school house." His term ended with the opening of the following spring.

In October, 1838, Jonathan D. Dow took charge of the district school for six months. But this is growing tedious to me and doubtless to you also. Here is an abridged statement of the questions you ask:

Building date of old log school house, October, 1837; occupied by A. White, winter of 1837-38; J. Dow, 1838-39; D. Blood, 1839-41; J. Dow, 1841-42; Mr. Burton, 1842-43; J. Gilmour and W. R. Bishop, 1843-44; W. R. Bishop, 1844-45; J. McAfferty, 1845-46.

This last date will bring you up to your own easy recollection, and thus enable you to fill out complete list of all the teachers who occupied the house during the years of its continuance.

In the fall of 1843, Mr. John Gilmour was employed by the directors to take charge of the school for six months. He taught four months and was taken sick and died suddenly. The directors engaged me to finish the term. I returned in the fall and engaged the school for six months. This brought me to the spring of 1845, at which time I went to Cherry Grove. I have among other old school books a copy of Comstock's Chemistry. I find this entry on the fly leaf: "Cherry Grove Seminary, May 13, 1845."

I remember distinctly buying the book and entering the class in chemistry on the 2d, after reaching Cherry Grove.

I have no doubt of the correctness of the names and dates given above, but of course, like other mortals, may be mistaken.

But I am tired and so are you, and I will kindly release you now without further affliction.

I could mention a few incidents occurring up to the time of my departure for Cherry Grove, but they are of no value to any one now.

The Colfax School.

BY DR. D. T. DOUGLAS.

The Colfax school is an evolution of what thirty years ago was known as "The Williams school at the head of Mackinaw."

In the year A. D. 1879, the Illinois Central Railroad Company surveyed a branch from Kankakee to Bloomington and the village of Colfax was laid out, and a year or two afterward the "Williams school house" was moved into Colfax, about three-quarters of a mile from its original location, and was used for school purposes till A. D. 1883, when a vote was taken to bond the district for $4,000 with which to erect a new school building, the former one having become inadequate for the greater number of pupils, and a four-room house was built.

The village grew, school children increased, and an addition containing two more rooms was built, making six.

In the year 1894, the district was reorganized and a board of education elected. The increase of children continued, demands for more room being urgent, a second addition of two more rooms was made in A. D. 1899, thus making a building of eight rooms, which answered the purpose of the district till October 18, 1900, when about 11 o'clock a. m. the entire structure was consumed by fire. Without delay, the board of education met to devise plans for carrying on the school. The officiary of the Methodist, Christian and Presbyterian churches generously tendered the use of their church buildings for the purpose, which was eagerly accepted and highly appreciated. An election was called and without a dissenting vote, the question of issuing bonds for money to erect a new house carried. The new structure, which is substantially and beautifully built of brick, and partially stone faced, with slate roof, and nearly ready for occupancy, will have twelve large rooms, heated and ventilated after the most modern methods, with girls' and boys' toilet and play rooms in the basement, and a spacious auditorium in the third story large enough to seat 700 people.

During the months of September and October, 1901, the school having an enrollment of 310 pupils, occupied the Methodist and Christian churches, and Dr. Douglas' brick building, and is under the management of Professor Frank C. Prowdley, principal; Miss Hotsenpiller, and Miss Stowell, first and second assistants; Miss Tompkins, seventh grade; Miss Hall, fifth and sixth; Miss Covington, fourth; Mrs. Smith, third and part of second, and Miss Matheny, first and part of second primary.

The board of education at present is composed of Daniel A. Clark, president; John C. Harris, Henry Willhoite, Alfred Harpole, Ellis Watson, D. T. Douglas and John Ransom, the last named being secretary.

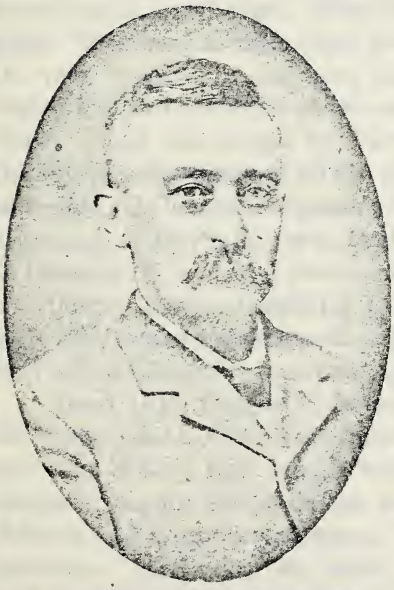
Early Schools of Empire Township.

BY THOMAS L. BUCK, LE ROY, ILLINOIS.

In 1831, at the June term of the county commissioners' court, held in Bloomington, the court divided McLean county into precincts. A section of country where LeRoy is now located, was named Salt Creek precinct. The voting place was at the home of Nathan Brittin. The first school house in Salt Creek precinct was built in 1832 on the northwest quarter of section 29. It was a log school house and built by contribution. It was called the Dickerson school house. William Johnson taught the first school. Later on the school was taught by others. In 1835, Gridley and Covel laid out the town of LeRoy, and the name was changed to LeRoy precinct, and the voting place was LeRoy. The first school house in LeRoy precinct was built in 1836, one mile south of town and was called the Clearwater school house. It was built of logs with all of the pioneer attachments, and was also used for preaching purposes. The first school was taught by William Johnson in 1836. He was a prominent teacher in the community for years. The first school in LeRoy was taught by James Lincoln in the summer and fall of 1837, in a sixteen-foot room situated on the northwest

HON. ARTHUR J. SCROGIN.

ANDREW J. FLESHER.



CHARLES TUCKENBROD.

GEORGE W. BISHOP.

corner of block 4 of the original town of LeRoy. The room was neither lathed nor plastered, so of course cold weather closed the school. James Lincoln was a well-educated man. For many years he was closely identified with the schools of LeRoy and vicinity. Later on he held prominent offices in town and township and was a good lawyer also. He has been dead a number of years. In 1838, James Newell taught a summer school. He was a Baptist preacher—left here many years ago. In 1839, the school house was built in LeRoy, on block 11, in the original town of LeRoy, north of the public square.

This house was built by the men of LeRoy and vicinity; each man furnished so much material and did so much work. The house was finished the winter of 1839. Dr. Henry Conkling taught the school. He left here in a few years and finally located in the town of Hudson, north of Bloomington. Later on he moved to Bloomington. He took a very active part in securing the I., B. & W. railway through this section of the country. He died in Bloomington some years ago. You must keep in mind that this house was used by LeRoy and vicinity. Scholars came in from the country and made quite a large school. This school house was used as a voting place. Elections, in those days, men voted by the word of mouth, the voter stepped in and gave his name and the candidates he wished to vote for and the clerks made a record of it. In 1840, the winter school was taught by David P. Bunn, an old settler in the county, and relative of all the Bunns. Mr. Bunn left here at an early date. He became a minister of the Universalist church and was a preacher of that faith for at least forty years. He finally settled in Decatur, Ill., and died there some years ago.

Cheney Thomas taught the LeRoy school several terms. In an early day, he was elected sheriff and tax collector of the county, and held both offices at the same time, and also held other offices later.

About 1845, Charles Richason, from Syracuse, N. Y., taught the winter school. John Waltermire taught one term of school. Mr. and Mrs. Adams each taught school here. Miss Emeline Gibbs taught a summer school on the south side. Then came Archibel Johnson and taught several terms. About 1849 LeRoy had a small-pox scare. The patient was taken to the school house, quarantined and cared for, which ended its use as a school house.

In 1850 and '51, William Downton taught school in a building now owned and occupied by Dr. Sargent, as a residence. Lewis Vandeventer and others taught in a building just west of the public square, where the Universalist church is now located.

In 1853, Professor Swingle taught a select school in the Parks building on Center street.

In 1854, the Cumberland Presbyterians, in connection with their church, put up a seminary building for higher education. The Rev. Robert Patten, of Tennessee, was principal for several years. In the meantime the public free school system had been established and the people wanted to receive the benefit of it, so the seminary went down as a denominational school, but the building was used for a public school building until a new school house was built.

In 1864 a new school building was completed and W. A. Monroe was the first principal. Mr. Monroe has been closely identified with school work for years. He is still with us.

The cost of the school in LeRoy and vicinity in 1839 was probably $100. In 1901-02 the number of scholars in district No. 3 (or LeRoy) number 696; cost of schools in district No. 3, $7,000; number of scholars in township, 1,065; cost of schools in township, $10,000.

PRINCIPALS AND SUPERINTENDENTS OF LE ROY HIGH SCHOOL, 1857-1897.

1857-8, John Long.
1858-9, Miss Maltby.
1859-60, A. B. Conkling.
1860-1, Mr. Harris
1861-2, W. A. Monroe.
1862-3, M. Huffman.
1863-4, Noah Wantling.
1864-5, W. A. Monroe .
1865-7, D. C. Clark.
1867-8, W. A. Monroe.
1868-9, J. W. Barley.
1869-70, John X. Wilson.
1870-1, Mr. Shirk.
1871-4, C. A. Barley.
1874-84, M. Jess.
1884-7, W. H. Chamberlain.
1887-90, L. S. Kilborn.
1890-2, J. W. Tavenner.
1892-5, F. G. Blair.
1895-6, B. F. Templeton.
1896-1900, B. C. Moore.
1900-1, C. J. Posey.
1901-2, S. K. McDowell.

The Schools of Lexington.

Compiled from article of Mr. D. F. Trimmer, for several years secretary of its Board of Education.

A. J. Flesher, lately deceased, was the first to draw public funds, and for one of his time was well educated, and a successful teacher. Mr. Flesher said the board of examiners asked not a single question, and assigned as the reason, they did not know what to ask. This school was taught near where the park now is, in a building much too small for the purpose. The text-books used were everything that chanced to be in the homes of the pupils. Mr. Flesher's pupils number many of our oldest and best citizens. This was our humble beginning in educational progress.

Among is teachers have been Mr. Coler, now comptroller of New York City; Miss Bird and Miss Salie, near Powley's shop; Adalaide Perry, in Jacob Spawr's shop, where the Christian church now stands. In September, 1865, the school was held in an upper room of what is now Karbaugh's hotel, by John Barnd; afterwards by A. J. Anderson, J. E. Wallace and Pauline Mahan. In 1865 a brick school building was erected at a cost of $10,000. A. J. Anderson was first principal; David Poor, principal from 1870 to 1874. His successors were J. W. Paisley one year; David Fulwiler, George Blount and L. S. Rowell, John A. Sterling, J. W. Adams, M. Jess, from 1884 to 1890; Professor Board, F. L. Horn, Ira M. Ong, J. W. Niccols, Jesse L. Smith, four years; P. W. Dorsey, R. G. Jones. The first class was graduated in 1880. The first course of study was introduced by Mr. Sterling and was revised during Mr. Horn's term and again by Mr. J. L. Smith.

In 1896 they built a new school building at an expense of $20,750. It is 74x76 feet and 100 to top of flagstaff. Eight rooms, is pressed brick, in every respect one of the best school buildings in the county. L. P. Scrogin and W. H. Claggett personally superintended its erection. Lexington is justly proud of its school building and of its school.

The Early Schools of Funk's Grove.

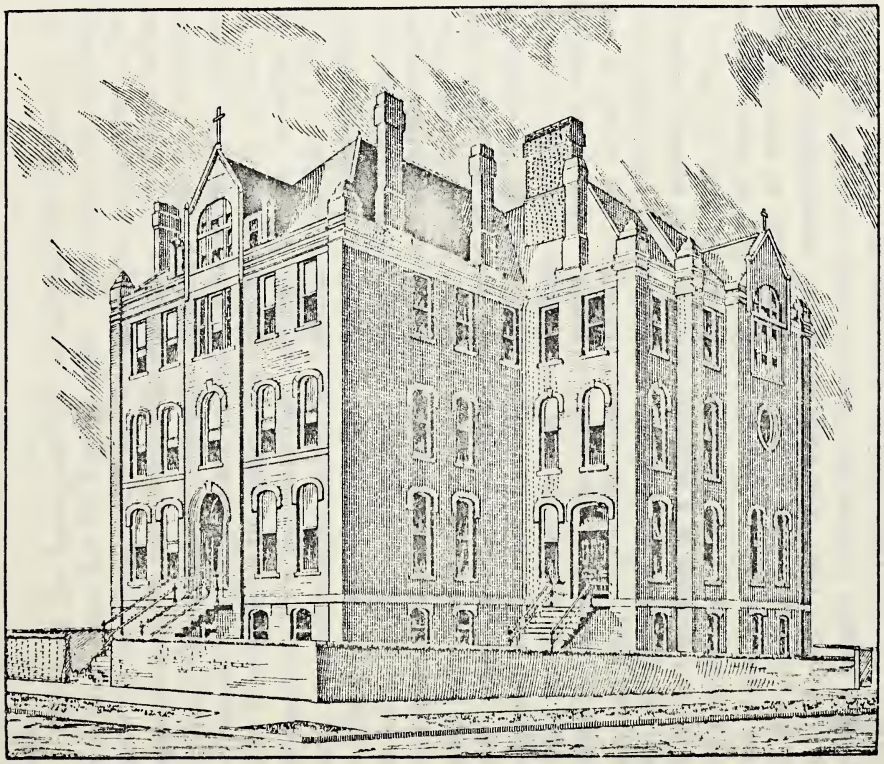
BY HON. LAFAYETTE FUNK.

The following account of the Early Schools of Funk's Grove was a part of Mr. Funk's address at the 75th anniversary of the settlement of the grove.

As to the pioneer educational features of the grove, I hardly know what to say, but will be safe to venture they were the equal of any of the surrounding schools. The line of text-books did not reach very high into the branches of education. Reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic to the rule of three, advancing occasionally to the primitive principles of grammar and geography. The principal features of the course, which only lasted the three winter months, were reading, spelling and writing with their goose quill pens, as steel and gold pens were not known then in country schools.

The line of school masters, as they titled them then, not as teachers as they are now, ran in this order in the log school house, as near as I can learn. First was Reuben Baker; second, William Johnson; third, Andrew Biggs, during the time of the deep snow, as previously spoken of; fourth, Andrew McMillan; fifth, O. W. Wiggins; sixth, Mr. Boltonhouse, given name not known; seventh, Jonathan Dow; eighth, Catharine Caton; ninth, Patrick O'Brien; tenth, a Mr. Fisher, a theatrical performer who used to have all kinds of performances at the scholars' homes of evenings on his pilgrimages of boarding round, as was the custom in those days.

Some of these schoolmasters had different ideas as to the rule of a Christmas treat. The boys had a set rule that the master must have a bushel of apples for a standing treat on Christmas. I well remember on one occasion Master Dow was in charge of the school, and had intimated he would not be subjected to any such undignified conditions. A council of ways and means was held by the scholars how the matter should be adjusted, and it was



ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, CENTER AND CHESTNUT STS.

unanimously decided that a rule which had always been in vogue could not be broken and must be lived up to at all hazards.

All preliminaries for the line of assault had been carefully arranged and some reinforcements had been secured in the person of John Stubblefield if the boys were likely to be unequal to the task.

Christmas day having arrived, noon luncheon disposed of, all hands were eager for the fray to begin. The lines were carefully drawn up for action, and if on the request the usual treat to the apples refused, the master was to be carried by force of arms to the creek and then and there be plunged under the water till the scholars' request was promised and granted. The request being refused when demanded by the leader, the order was given to proceed to business, and in a good deal less time than it takes to write the story, Mr. Schoolmaster was in the hands and clutches of a dozen or fifteen boys and urged on by as many girls, proceeding toward the creek, but before going far a halt was called. The suggestion was made that the water arrangement would only please the master, as his habit was to take a bath in the creek every morning, hot or cold. Then the remedy of piling cord wood on the master was suggested and carried into effect, which brought the master to terms, and he declared the rule was all right and should be maintained by sending for the bushel of apples. One other instance occurred where one of the rules of the school was broken on the part of the scholars, and for this infraction, punishment was meted out to them in a summary manner. The occasion causing the trouble arose from trying to secure a coon from his den in a tree at the noon hour. One of the boys had as he came to school in the morning tracked a coon by a small skift of snow through to his den in a tree. The word was passed, arrangements made to proceed rapidly at noon, fell the tree, secure his coonship and return by the time books took up, that being one of the rules of the school that every scholar must be in his seat when this time arrived.

The returning of this band of boys did not occur for some time after taking up school at the noon hour, they having found the task a much heavier one than anticipated when they first started out to secure his coonship's scalp. The master in the meantime had provided himself with abundant material in the way of

switches, which was close by, to maintain and hold up the dignity and reputation of his school by vigorously applying the rod to each and every boy's back for the violation and infraction of one of his most coveted rules.

The boys were all willing to take the punishment rather than have the stigma stand against them of being antagonistic to the will of the master, whose name was O'Brien, weighing less than one hundred pounds, and after finishing up his work of punishment, was well-nigh exhausted. A guilty conscience compels the writer to admit of being one of the survivors of the fourteen who had to take the punishment.

So you see the rules of the schools of that day and time had to be strictly adhered to by both master and scholars.

It is now a mooted question in many circles of learning if in those primitive days of educational advantages were not the scholars advanced in their branches of study more rapidly than now in all the advanced stages and modern appliances of school work.

As above stated, the old log school house with its greased paper for window lights was used for church purposes till a larger and more commodious frame one was erected about the year 1846 or '47, with modern improvements, glass for window light, stoves for heating purposes, and was a model within itself, being filled many times with people from the surrounding groves on occasions of quarterly meetings.

History of St. Joseph's Academy and St. Mary's College High School.

The history of the Catholic School of Holy Trinity parish, Bloomington, Illinois, extends back to the year 1863, when Father Kennedy erected the convent which still stands on the southeast corner of Chestnut and Center streets. He invited the Sisters of St. Joseph from Carondelet, Mo., to conduct the school. They remained in charge until the year 1876, when they were succeeded by the Dominican Sisters from Sinsinnawa Mound, Wis.

In the year 1884, Very Rev. M. Weldon, V. G., erected, at a cost of $26,000 for building and furnishing, the present large brick structure, which stands on the northeast corner of Locust and Center streets, and which was chartered as St. Mary's College High School.

In addition to the primary and grammar grades, there is a high school department with a four years' course. The Illinois State Course of Study is in use in the grades.

The same course of study is used, likewise, in St. Joseph's Academy, Chestnut and Center streets, where, besides the regular day school, there is a department for boarders. In this institution there is a musical and an art department. The attendance upon the St. Joseph's Academy is about forty; the number of teachers, four; the attendance upon St. Mary's is over three hundred; the number of teachers, seven; the cost of maintenance is $1,400 per annum, derived from tuition, which is fifty cents for each of the first two children of the same family and twenty-five cents for each additional member per month. Where the parents are too poor to pay tuition the children are admitted free. Any deficiency in the expenses not met by the tuition is made by the church. The teachers of both St. Joseph's and St. Mary's are the Dominican Sisters. St. Joseph's is owned and controlled by the Dominican Sisters. St. Mary's is under the charge of the Very Rev. M. Weldon, V. G., of Holy Trinity parish.

NOTE: During 1901 St. Patrick's church built a parochial school building at No. 1205 West Locust street at a cost of $8,500 and have contracted for the erection of a convent as a residence for the Sisters in charge of the school at a cost of $5,000, and St. Mary's church, German Catholic, have raised $4,000 towards the building of a new school building.

History of Parochial School of German Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The McLean County Historical Society.

GENTLEMEN:—Following I give a brief sketch of the parochial school under my charge:

It is the practice of our Lutheran church of the synod of Missouri, Ohio, and other states, to organize a parochial school in every congregation we gather, so our parochial school in Bloomington was organized together with our congregation in 1858. Rev. J. Ruff, the first pastor of the church, was at the same time the first teacher of our school. It was not until 1865 the congregation could call a teacher for her school beside the pastor. The pastor at that time was Rev. H. Schliepsik and the teacher being Mr. J. Bockhaus, now professor at our teachers' seminary at Addison, DuPage county, Illinois. After him came Mr. John Brase in 1867. Soon after two teachers were necessary and Mr. Maar was called as second teacher. The pastor of the congregation is always the superintendent of the school.

At the present we have two hundred and forty pupils, three teachers in three different rooms. Mr. A. Stahmer in the first room; Mr. L. Rittmiller in the second room, and Mr. A. Bueltzingsloewen in the third room. Our school is German and English.

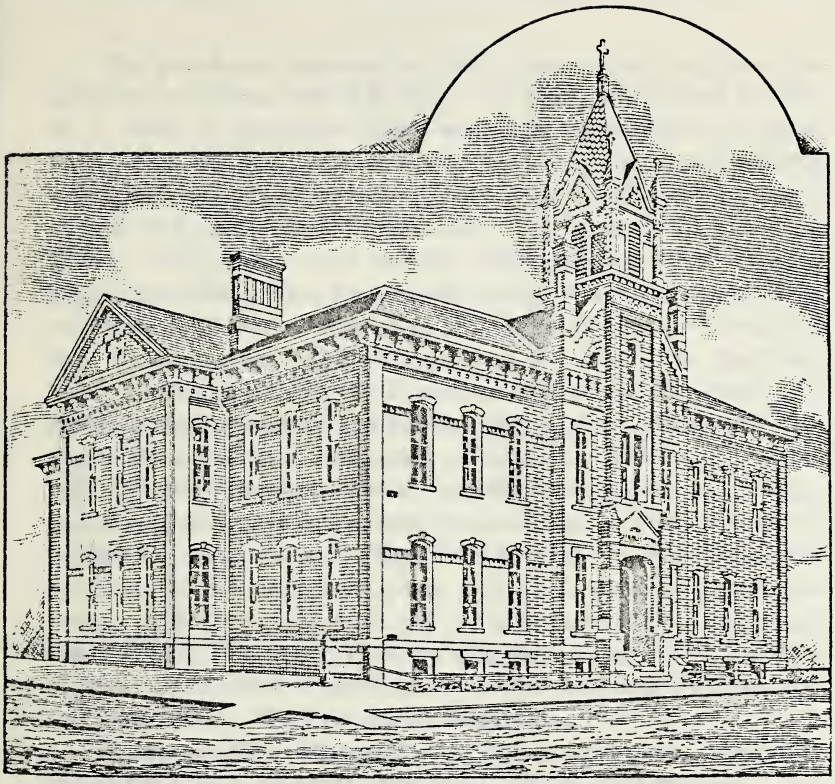
Our present building was built in 1893 at a cost of about $10,000. Time given to religious instruction is about forty-five minutes every day. We have no kindergarten instruction. The school is sustained by fees and also by the church.

We teach: I. German: Bible history, catechism, reading, grammar, composition, penmanship, drawing, world's history, vocal music.

II. English: Reading, grammar, orthography, composition, arithmetic, geography, U. S. history, civil government, penmanship, natural history.

Hoping the foregoing will be sufficient information,

Yours truly, C. F. W. SAPPER, Pastor.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, CENTER AND LOCUST STS.

History of Parochial School of St. Mary's Parish.

The parish was organized in 1867; frame church built on Taylor street in 1869 at cost of $2,500. The school was opened by Rev. W. J. Revis in September, 1873, with a small number of children and church was used also as school for a few years, until church was raised and a brick basement built below it for school purposes, at cost of $1,400. Rev. F. Schreiber, who came to the parish in March, 1877, as the first resident priest, induced the Ursuline Sisters from Louisville, Ky., to take charge of the school, and they remained until July, 1883, when they were recalled to Louisville, Ky. In September, 1881, at request of Rt. Rev. J. L. Spalding, bishop of Peoria diocese, the Franciscan Fathers of Cincinnati, O., province, took charge of the parish. Mr. Andrew Rothmann conducted the school from September, 1883, to July, 1888. In September, 1888, the Franciscan Sisters from Oldenburg, Ind., took charge and during first year had an attendance of ninety-seven from seven to thirteen years of age. From 1900 to 1901 the attendance was one hundred and forty-five. Since fall, 1887, when the grand new church edifice was dedicated, the old church building was turned into a school. This year, 1902, we will build a new school building of brick. The school is sustained by fees and church. The annual cost about $700. We have no kindergarten.

Grades taught: Elementary and grammar grades. Religious instructions given one-half hour daily. Scope of instruction:. Religion, arithmetic, reading and spelling, penmanship, language and grammar, composition, object lessons, geography and nature study, U. S. history, literature, physiology, German reading, spelling, letter-writing and composition. School hours, 8:30 to 11:30 a. m., and 1 to 4 p. m. All studies are in English. In the German language is also taught reading, spelling, writing, etc. Religious instructions given in German and English.

Yours truly,

REV. PACIFIC WINTERHELD, O. F. M., Pastor.

Educational Convention of 1853.

BY JOHN H. BURNHAM.*

On the 26th day of December, 1853, there assembled at Bloomington an important state convention, whose actions had such a bearing upon the educational interests of this state, and on the material and educational future of Bloomington and McLean county, that its record deserves to be reproduced with some reflections upon its local importance, and a few explanations showing how this convention resulted in the establishment of our State Normal University.

Illinois, in 1853, was beginning to emerge from the financial depressions which had followed one another from the crisis of 1836 down to about 1851, when the discovery of gold in California and the final settlement of the Mexican war troubles, together with the commencement of railroad building started the commercial activities of the state and nation. Railroad building in the west was the most important feature of the new development, and railroad building had begun to stimulate McLean county, with Bloomington as its railroad center. The Illinois Central's cars had been running from LaSalle through Bloomington to Clinton or points further south, the first train having reached the young city of Bloomington May 23, 1853.

On October 16, 1853, the first train from Alton on the Chicago & Mississippi River railroad, by the way of Springfield, reached Bloomington, and the place began to be considered as a railroad center. Passengers from Alton and Springfield for Chicago changed cars on the prairie at the junction of the new railroads at what is now Normal, went north to LaSalle and from there to

*In preparing this article the writer has consulted the following authorities: Record of the Illinois State Teachers' Association; Illinois School Teacher, Vol. I; Bloomington Pantagraph; Public School Journal; Mrs. J. N. Ward of the McLean County Historical Society; Mrs. Virginia F. Graves of the McLean County Historical Society.

Chicago by way of the canal or the Rock Island railroad as preferred.

Plans began to be made for a town or village at the junction, but it was not till the following year, June 15, 1854, that a sale of lots took place at what was first called North Bloomington on the legal plats, but which the general public knew only by the name of the "Junction."

Two hundred lots were laid out at North Bloomington by W. F. Arny & Co. and the advertisement of the sale tells us that the point was already a railroad center; that a new line had just been projected to Kankakee and that the Mississippi & Wabash railroad was to cross the other railroads just south of the junction. No hint of the location of the Normal University had yet been whispered, and we are quaintly told that "the opportunities afforded by the 'Illinois Wesleyan University,' the 'Illinois Central Female College' and also the various 'private schools' and 'public academies' (*i. e.*, public schools) of Bloomington for the proper training and thorough education of the rising generation constitute this a point of no ordinary importance."

Times have changed since then, and instead of North Bloomington being considered convenient to the educational institutions of Bloomington, we find the latter place commended because it is near the great educational institution of North Bloomington, which name, by the way, would have been a very good name to have retained instead of the one chosen, although as the idea of Normal schools was new at that time, there was certainly some advertising wisdom in adopting the name Normal.

It can readily be seen, therefore, that in the fall of the year 1853, Bloomington with its two railroads was a town of great hopes, large expectations and general prosperity. This prosperity was almost intoxicatingly bewildering to a population which had been waiting since 1837 for railroads which did not arrive. The road chartered from Pekin to Bloomington, after having been graded to Tremont, failed to secure its iron. The long talked of Central railroad, originally chartered about the same time, had finally reached Bloomington, while the present Chicago & Alton, less talked about, had actually become a fixed fact. Lands advanced in value perhaps more rapidly during 1853 than in any other year of our history. Possibly the advance per acre was

more during the year 1901, just passed, but the percentage of advance was perhaps greater in 1853, while the general building of the young city was carried on more rapidly than at any previous or later period, over a quarter of a million of dollars having been expended here in building in 1854.

In the midst of this material prosperity the cause of education was not forgotten by our wideawake and energetic predecessors. The Illinois Wesleyan University was constructing its first college building, its professors and students doing good work in the meantime in the basement of the old Methodist church at the southwest corner of Washington and East streets. We shall presently see that its faculty was very influential in advancing the educational interests of Bloomington through the convention of which I am writing.

Private schools were also very flourishing in Bloomington, one of which, the Illinois Central Female College Seminary, was in charge of Professor D. Wilkins, Jr., who took a leading part in the convention.

The public schools of Bloomington were just beginning to be organized on a new and better basis than before, but gave little promise, as yet, of the marvelous development which has since followed, beginning with the Bloomington city school law of 1857. Their condition is partially described in another part of this article.

Our citizens took great pride in their new college and were ready to assist the enterprise to the best of their ability, but being mostly new settlers with their homes and fortunes yet to secure, they were unable to do much more than express their good will towards any and all educational projects and in the end we shall show that in manifesting this good will at the time they did, they actually accomplished great things for this city and county.

Amid this rush and bustle, or hustle, as we should now term it, our citizens, under the lead of such men as the president and professors of the college, Professor Wilkins, of the Female Seminary, the ministers of all the churches, and noble men like our late living good friend and early Bloomington teacher, the Rev. G. W. Minier, a movement was started for a state educational convention to be held in this city between Christmas and New Years.

The call for the state convention was headed by the secretary of state and was signed by the president and faculty of Shurtliff College at Alton, President Dempster and the professors of Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, by several other college officers in Galesburg and elsewhere, by the five ministers of Bloomington and Mr. G. W. Minier and by many other well-known educational men in various parts of the state, a very few of them being teachers in the public schools, because at this period there were few public schools of a very high character.

The members of the convention were tendered free entertainment by the citizens of Bloomington, who were proud to welcome those who chose to accept of their hospitality, though from the fact that the McFarland House was headquarters, I judge that its limited capacity was occupied in caring for a part of the visitors.

The convention did not claim to be the first educational convention in the state. One was held when the state capitol was at Vandalia, was attended by Abraham Lincoln and many others, and Stephen A. Douglas was its secretary. One was held in 1851 at Granville, Putnam county, another at Springfield January 4, 1853, and it is believed that this does not constitute the entire list. But the Bloomington convention outranks them all in its attendance, enthusiasm and practical results and from the fact that it took steps to perpetuate itself by the immediate organization of a state teachers' institute, December 28, 1853, which at its next meeting in Peoria in 1854, turned itself into the Illinois State Teachers' Association, which has become such an influential educational power in this state.

On the evening of December 26, 1853, in accordance with the call, the convention met at the First Methodist church and perfected a temporary organization with an order of business to be followed during its continuance.

All of its three sessions on the 27th were largely attended, and very great enthusiasm prevailed. A deep earnestness pervaded the convention and it was plainly to be seen its membership was made up of thinkers of the active sort, men who were not only deep thinkers, but who were ready to take such immediate action as in their judgment was adapted to the needs of the times and to the best interests of the cause of education.

The permanent organization consisted of the following: President, E. W. Brewster, of Elgin; vice-presidents, Professor W. Goodfellow, of Bloomington, of the Illinois Wesleyan University; A. J. Sawyer and C. B. Loop, of Joliet; secretaries, W. H. Powell and H. L. Lewis.

Several resolutions were reported to the convention, four of which were of great importance and all four were started towards eventful execution, and three of them were consummated in about one year. Few, indeed, have been the conventions which have been followed by such great results and the memory of this great educational convention deserves to be proudly cherished by Bloomingtonians to the end of time.

The first resolution declared for a state teachers' institute, which was organized the next day, immediately after the adjournment of the convention and as before stated, it has resulted in the permanent establishment of the State Teachers' Association, which meets annually at Springfield as near as possible on the anniversary of the Bloomington educational convention.

The next resolution demanded the appointment of a state school superintendent as a new state official, and at the very next session of the legislature, a special session, February 9, 1854, a law was passed authorizing the governor to appoint such an officer; he then appointed Ninian W. Edwards, of Springfield, as the first superintendent and the office has continued to this day with greatly increased power, duties and responsibilities. Previous to this the secretary of state was ex-officio state school superintendent.

The other two resolutions were in favor of a state teachers' journal or paper and for the establishment of a State Normal school. The teachers' paper or journal was started in about one year thereafter, its establishment dating from the first annual meeting of the State Teachers' Institute at Peoria, when Mr. W. F. N. Arny, of Bloomington, was appointed its first editor and its first publishers were Messrs. Merriman & Morris, who were then the proprietors of the Bloomington Pantagraph. This journal was known for many years as the "Illinois Teacher." Being published in Peoria or Springfield, although fostered by the influences of the Normal University, it did not appear to fill the wants of the institution and other friends of education in general, and the

"Schoolmaster" was started in Bloomington by Mr. John Hull, a graduate of the first-class in Normal, who was county school superintendent of McLean county from 1869 till 1875.

This journal was afterwards taken to Chicago, and was followed here by the "Public School Journal." This was taken charge of in 1886 by Professor George P. Brown, a prominent educator from Indianapolis. Under his conduct, by consolidation with two other school journals, it became one of the leading educational magazines of the United States. It has gone out of Bloomington to all of the civilized countries of the world. It takes high rank and is patronized by the most advanced thinkers of the country, and is well worthy of the pride and confidence of our people, whom it honors by its location.

Though nearly paralyzed by the great fire in this city in 1900, it has recovered its former high rank and now known as "School and Home Education," possesses power and influence far beyond the most sanguine dreams of those who projected a teachers' journal in 1853.

The "Illinois Teacher" was the organ of the State Teachers' Association for many years. After two years of its existence, it passed under the management of Mr. Charles E. Hovey, then principal of the public schools of Peoria. He had been elected editor by the State Teachers' Association.

"The Teacher," being vigorously edited at Peoria by Mr. Hovey, was the most powerful agent in the state to advocate the establishment of a State Normal school.

The fourth resolution of the Bloomington educational convention demanded that the state found and maintain such a normal institution and this resolution was the one which attracted the most attention.

In the first volume of the "Illinois Teacher," we find a belated report of the great convention, it appearing that the editor of the Pantagraph had waited many weary months without receiving "an official report" of the most important meeting ever held in Bloomington. The editor excuses himself from not making a full report in his paper and throws out hints concerning the feeling and excitement of the meeting, from which I judge that the gathering was not wholly free from ambitious plans and personal schemes.

I obtained a hint of this from the fact that a later issue of the Illinois Teacher reports the first teachers' institute ever held in McLean county, which was in October, 1855, with its action. The most important resolution asked the state to appropriate $10,000 from the state's college and seminary funds to the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, from which I infer that the friends of this college, who were largely instrumental in calling the Bloomington convention, had in common with the friends of the other established colleges, begun to besiege the legislature for the college and seminary funds, which were afterwards turned over to the use of the Normal University.

The discussion of this question, however, had scarcely commenced at the time of our convention and all friends of education were nobly standing together in behalf of a normal institution for the better instruction of teachers for our public schools.

It appears from the Illinois Teacher's report of the proceedings of our convention that during the discussion of the resolution in favor of a normal institution, it developed that very imperfect and crude ideas existed in the minds of even our leading educators as to what constituted a normal school. Very few models could be found in America, though institutions for this purpose had been in existence in Europe for over half a century. Massachusetts was the American pioneer in this line, but even there such schools were in their infancy, as was shown in this very debate, when it was stated that the two normal school buildings in that state cost, respectively, only $11,000 and $14,000.

Some of the best friends of normal training appeared to be in favor of performing this work through some one or more of the existing colleges and here appeared to be a germ of the reason for Bloomington's deep interest in the new project.

But all feelings of jealousy and local selfishness went down before the grand demands of the state at large and the meeting nobly put itself on record as follows:

"*Resolved*, That a committee of seven or more be appointed to correspond with the friends of education in several important points in the state and see where the people are willing to begin a normal school and do the most to establish the same."

This committee was F. A. Benham, of Chicago, H. O. Snow, of Peoria, H. Spaulding, of Jacksonville, Professor Goodfellow,

EMERSON SCHOOL, BLOOMINGTON.
Cor. Taylor and Evans Streets.

of Bloomington; W. H. Powell, of LaSalle; C. F. Loop, of Joliet, and S. C. Parker, of Lowell, LaSalle county. I have not been able to find any record of the subsequent labors of this committee, but it is probable some effort was made in the desired direction.

Its appointment proves that no advantage was intended to be taken either by or for any particular locality.

The project for a state normal school was now launched upon the community and here in Bloomington the discussion of the subject familiarized the people with its importance and no doubt went far towards crystallizing public sentiment in favor, not only of the proposed State Normal school, but also in favor of a better system for the public schools of Bloomington, which showed itself by the adoption by popular vote in 1857 of a special act of the legislature which was the foundation of the magnificent public school system of Bloomington.

The further history of the movement for a State Normal school does not pertain particularly to this city. It was ably continued in the columns of the Illinois Teacher, especially after it passed under the editorial management of C. E. Hovey, of Peoria, and it finally took shape in the passage of the act of the legislature February 18, 1857, authorizing the location of a normal school at some point yet to be decided on, which institution should be sustained by the permanent appropriation of a large portion of the much coveted college and seminary funds.

The credit of moving the legislature to pass this act belongs largely to the influence of McLean and Peoria counties. In Peoria county Mr. Charles E. Hovey, afterwards the first principal or president of the Normal University, was the leading spirit. In McLean county, it is hard to state who were the leaders, but the men named in this paper were among them, reinforced by such men as Jesse W. Fell. The people of McLean and Peoria counties appeared to have been vastly more interested in the location of the institution than those of any other part of the state, as was shown when these two counties made by far the most liberal offers and the fact that Bloomington and McLean county outbid all other localities may be attributed to the germination of the good seed sown at the time of our great educational convention.

The citizens of this county who lived here in 1853, ably assisted by the great influx of emigration poured into this county

from 1853 to 1857, the most flourishing period of this county's history, fully appreciated the value of a new educational institution, and with a determination to cherish and sustain the Illinois Wesleyan University, already established, they gallantly offered an immense bonus for the new State Normal University, thus proving themselves worthy of the great opportunity offered through the instrumentality of the great educational convention of December 27, 1853.

Invigorated and bravely led by the gallant and indomitable Jesse W. Fell, the same public spirited citizens, in 1867, offered over half a million of dollars as stated elsewhere in this book, for the location of the state university, which finally went to Champaign and Urbana.

It had always been the idea of the leaders in the great struggle for the location of the Normal University that the school was to be a mere branch of the great State University to follow, and hence the noble effort of 1867, which was intended by our citizens to finally supplement the grand effort of 1857, and had these attempts been successful, Bloomington would have been the real educational center of the state, instead of being merely one of such centers.

For the benefit of our younger generation, I will explain that at the time our Normal University was started in 1857, it was the almost universal opinion that the normal department was to be merely one of the departments of a great state university, and that the demand for better teachers was of such a pressing nature that as soon as this want was in process of being supplied, the state would immediately develop a great state university. The war soon came on, however, and it was not until 1867 that the legislature appropriated money towards what was at first called the Illinois Industrial University, which was endowed with this state's share of the great agricultural college land grant.

It appeared that the advantages reaped by Bloomington and McLean county by the growth of the village of Normal were of such magnitude that other localities were aroused to compete strongly for the location of the Industrial University. The financial offer of McLean county was much larger than the offer of Champaign county, but the people of the eastern part of the

state made such a clamor for a share of the state institutions that the legislature, after a visit to each location, awarded the prize to Champaign.

This award was influenced somewhat by Springfield's need of an immediate appropriation for a new state house. The state capital influence being added to the interests of eastern Illinois, it happened that our strong friends in the legislature were outvoted, to the intense and bitter disappointment of all friends of the Normal University, a disappointment which in the hearts of some grows more and more intense as we witness the tremendous development of the State University at Champaign.

The Illinois Wesleyan University.

BY PRESIDENT EDGAR M. SMITH.

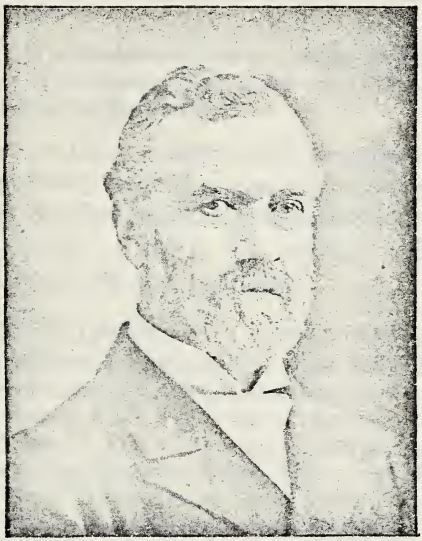
As early as 1849 some of the public spirited citizens of central Illinois began the agitation of establishing a college at Bloomington. The first record of such agitation is in the minutes of the Illinois conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the year ending September, 1849. It is simply a record that Rev. John S. Barger and Rev. Thomas A. McGee were appointed a committee to confer with the citizens of Bloomington, Illinois, on the subject of a seminary of learning at that place.

The following is an abbreviated copy of the first announcement of organization, which is dated September 23, 1850:

To All Whom It May Concern:

Be it known that at the city of Bloomington in the county of McLean and state of Illinois, on the twenty-third day of September, A. D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty, we, the undersigned, James C. Finley, James Miller, James Allin, John E. McClun, John Magoun, William C. Hobbs, Thos. McGee, Charles P. Merriman, Ezekiel Thomas, Thomas P. Rogers, Linus Graves, Peter Cartwright, James F. Jaquess, William I. Rutledge, Calvin W. Lewis, James Leaton, John Van Cleve, Silas Waters, Isaac Funk, David Trimmer, John S. Barger, C. M. Haliday, W. D. R. Trotter, W. H. Allin, Wm. Wallace, W. H. Holmes, Jno. W. Ewing, Lewis Bunn, Kersey H. Fell, Reuben Andrus, of the state aforesaid, do and hereby have associated ourselves together as trustees and a body corporate for the purpose of permanently establishing at or near said city of Bloomington, in the county aforesaid, an Institution of learning of Collegiate grade, in accordance with the provisions of an act of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, entitled an "Act for the Incorporation of Institutions of Learning," approved January twenty-sixth, A. D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-Nine.

And we do hereby make known and declare that the said institution of learning hereby established shall be known in law and equity or otherwise by the name and style of "Illinois Wesleyan University," and we do further make known and declare that the said institution of learning shall be under the direction and supervision of thirty trustees and that the undersigned James C. Finley [here follow the names as given above] shall constitute such trustees for the time being and until they shall be succeeded in manner hereinafter provided.



EDGAR M. SMITH.

President Wesleyan University.

And we do further make known and declare that the said institution of learning shall be of the rank and order of a college or university, and that the branches of Literature and Science proposed to be taught in said institution are the Ancient and Modern Languages, Biblical Criticism and Ecclesiastical History, Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, Mental and Moral Science, Belles Lettres, English Literature and Normal Instruction, Natural Science, Law and Political Economy, and such other branches of Literature and Science as in collegiate institutions usually belong to the several professorships hereinafter provided. * * *

The constitution was adopted, under the general incorporation statute, December 18, 1850. In it the object of the university is thus stated:

"The object of this institution shall be to provide a system of education adapted to the wants of the country, and based upon the system of religion and morality revealed in the Scriptures."

At the session of the legislature held in January and February, 1853, the university received a special charter, the first three sections of which, together with the amendment of January 30, 1857, are given below. This is the charter under which, as amended, the university is now operating.

AN ACT ENTITLED AN ACT INCORPORATING ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly, that James Allin, J. E. McClun, Linus Graves, Thomas O. Rogers, K. H. Fell, Ezekial Thomas, W. H. Allin, Isaac Funk, John Moon, Jesse W. Fell, C. D. James, Silas Waters, C. P. Merriman, David Trimmer, John Magoun, James Miller, John W. Ewing, Jesse Birch, A. Goddard, W. C. Hobbs, David Davis, Peter Cartwright, John S. Barger and Henry Col man, and their successors, be and are hereby created a body corporate and politic, by the name and style of "The Trustees of the Wesleyan University." and by that style and name to remain and have perpetual succession. The university shall remain at or near the city of Bloomington, in the county of McLean, and the number of trustees shall not exceed twenty-four (24), exclusive of the president, principal or presiding officer of the college, who shall be, *ex officio*, a member of the Board of Trustees: Provided, however, that no other professor or instructor shall be a member of said board. For the present the aforesaid individuals shall constitute the Board of Trustees.

SEC. 2. The object of said corporation shall be the promotion of the general interest of education, and to qualify young men to engage in the several employments and professions of society, and to discharge honorably and usefully the various duties of life.

SEC. 3. Said university shall be under the patronage of the Illinois Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which shall have

the privilege of annually appointing a visiting committee consisting of seven, who shall have a seat with the Board of Trustees in the transactions of business. And any other annual conference that shall unite in the patronage of said institution shall have the same privilege: Provided the whole number of visitors so appointed shall not exceed twelve; and provided, also, there shall be a quorum of the regular trustees exclusive of said visiting committee or committees, as the case may be, in all meetings of the Board of Trustees.

AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT ENTITLED AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, APPROVED FEBRUARY 12, 1853.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois represented in General Assembly, that the first section of the act entitled An Act to Incorporate the Illinois Wesleyan University, approved February 12, 1853, be so amended that the trustees therein named and their successors in office, shall be a body corporate and politic by the name and style of "The Trustees of the Illinois Wesleyan University."

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted that sections third and fourth of said act be so amended that said university shall be under the patronage of the Illinois and Peoria (now Central Illinois) Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and such other annual conferences of said chu ch as shall hereafter unite in the patronage of said university; and that the trustees of said university shall hereafter be elected by said conferences electing an equal number of trustees and that the joint visiting committee appointed by said conferences shall have the right to nominate the president of said university, but no vote in his election.

SEC. 3. So much of said act of February 12, 1853 as conflicts with this act is hereby repealed.

SEC. 4. This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage. *Approved January 30, 1857.*

THE CORPORATION IN JULY, 1901.

Edgar M. Smith, M. A., D. D., President of the University and Ex-Officio Member of the Board of Trustees.

Owen T. Reeves, M. A., LL. D., President of the Board of Trustees.

George P. Davis, M. A. LL. B., - - - Vice-President
Harvey C. DeMotte, M. A., Ph. D., - - - Secretary
James O. Willson, - - - - - - Treasurer

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

CLASS OF 1898-1901, ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Hon. Benjamin F. Funk, Bloomington; George P. Davis, M. A., LL. B., Bloomington; Jesse Meharry, Tolono; Hiram Buck Prentice, Chicago.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

George R. Palmer, D. D., Onarga; Marion V. Crumbaker, D. D., Kankakee; James H. Bunn, Peoria; Hon. John S. Thompson, Lacon.

CLASS OF 1899-1902, ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Martha A. Buck, Decatur; Peter Whitmer, Bloomington; Sain Welty, A. M., LL. B., Bloomington; Rev. William A. Smith, M. A., D. D., Springfield.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Hon. Wesley B. Harvey, Washington; Mrs. Emily S. Van Dolah, Lexington; Rev. William R. Wiley, D. D., Normal; Thomas Doney, M. A., D. D., Canton.

CLASS OF 1900-1903, ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Judge Owen T. Reeves, M. A., LL. D., Bloomington; Hon. Leonidas H. Kerrick, M. S., Bloomington; Abraham Mann, Rossville; William H. Wilder, M. A., D. D., Bloomington.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Dr. Charles H. Long, Pontiac; Richard Crewes, M. A., D. D., Normal; William Wallace Whitmore, B. A., LL. B., Peoria; Nelson McCormick, M. D., Normal.

Official Visitors.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Joseph S. Cumming, D. D., Elmwood; Rev. Reuben B. Williams, Kankakee; Rev. Amos K. Tullis, Henry; Rev. Josiah E. Connor, Lexington; Rev. Joe Bell, Streator; Rev. Frederick J. Giddings, B. A., Saunemin.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Rev. W. S. Calhoun, Monticello; Frost Craft, D. D., Decatur; Rev. Christy Galeener, M. A., Danville; George E. Scrimger, M. A., D. D., Champaign; John A. Kumler, M. A., D. D., Springfield; Rev. James T. Orr, Paxton.

UNSETTLED PERIOD.

The period from 1851 to 1857 was one of steady purpose and constant endeavor; but of fluctuating and uncertain results. In

July, 1851, Rev. Erastus Wentworth, D. D., was elected president, and Rev. William Goodfellow and Rev. Reuben Andrus were elected professors. Dr. Wentworth did not accept, as more attractive positions opened to him. He subsequently became one of the most eminent leaders in the Methodist denomination. Professors Goodfellow and Andrus opened the school in September, 1851, and conducted it through that year.

In July, 1852, Rev. John Dempster was elected president and remained so in name for two years. He seems, however, to have had little connection with the affairs of the university, and soon after was elected to the presidency of the Garret Biblical Institute at Evanston, which position he accepted. Professor Andrus declined a re-election for another year, and Rev. C. W. Sears was elected in his place. These two teachers, with Mr. J. W. Sheefy as principal of the primary department, conducted the school for the following year. In 1855, Professor Sears was made president, which position he occupied for one year, when the school was closed for want of funds.

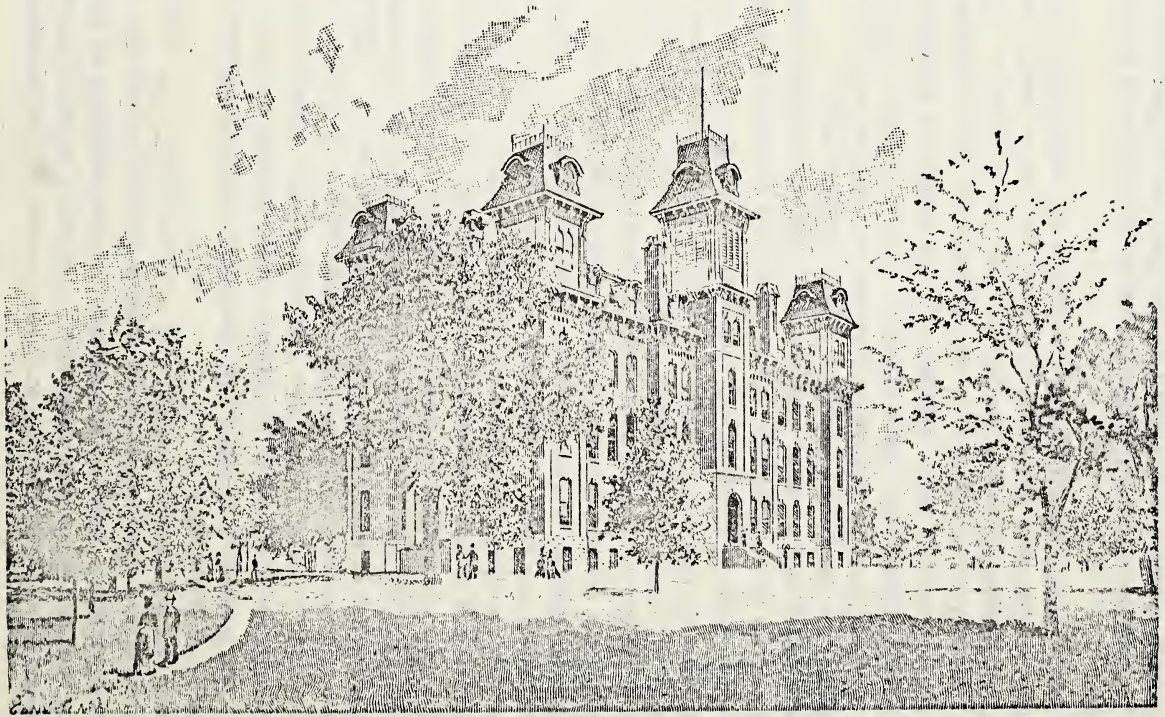
In 1853 the college graduated its first student, James H. Barger, with the degree of B. A., who subsequently became a minister of the Illinois Conference of the M. E. Church. He died October 1, 1861. In 1854, William Fletcher Short came from McKendree College, Upper Alton, to Bloomington and entered the Wesleyan for the purpose of furnishing the university with a graduating class. He received the degree of B. A. in July of that year, and is now (1901) living in Jacksonville, the oldest living alumnus. He attended the semi-centennial exercises of 1901 and delivered a most delightful address.

Oliver S. Munsell

PRESIDENT OF THE ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, 1857-1873.

The Rev. Oliver Spencer Munsell, A. M., D. D., son of Leander and Hannah Munsell, was born in Miami county, Ohio, June 8, 1825.

When he was not quite seven years old, his parents removed to Paris, Edgar county, Illinois, where was his home until manhood. His education was begun in the old time subscription school, for there, as yet, the free school had no existence. Later his prepara-



ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

tion for college was made under private tutors, and in September, 1841, he entered the sophomore class of Asbury University, Greencastle, Indiana. Being in poor health, he was compelled to leave college at the close of the winter term in his senior year, but returned in the spring of 1845, and was graduated with honors, taking the degree of A. B.

His father had educated him specifically for the profession of law, and upon graduation at Asbury, young Munsell at once entered upon its study under the tutorship of Mr. Emerson, who afterwards adorned a seat on the Supreme Bench of Illinois, and in the autumn of 1846 was admitted to practice at the bar. Though admitted to practice he never followed the profession, as a revolution had taken place in his thoughts and plans. In September of the same year he was licensed to preach and joined the Illinois Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1851 he was elected principal of the Danville Seminary which he organized in the old Methodist Church in Danville and afterwards conducted successfully in the Seminary building until 1854, when, on account of failing health, he resigned and sought a less sedentary life. In the autumn of 1856, at the earnest solicitation of intimate friends in the bounds of the Rock River Conference he was transferred to the Rock River Conference and stationed at Mt. Morris, the seat of the Rock River Seminary, whose large body of students offered him a genial field of labor, and one which so providentially aided to fit him for what was destined to be his chief life work.

In July, 1857, he was elected president of the Illinois Wesleyan University, which, after brave struggles for an existence, had suspended operation in 1856. He shared in the belief that Methodism and central Illinois needed such an institution as the one planned, and that Bloomington was the proper place for its location. The outlook at that time was not a promising one, and a month later the panic of 1857 occurred, which rendered the undertaking most difficult.

The assets of the institution consisted of ten acres of ground, beautifully situated in the north part of the city of Bloomington, the walls of a plain but substantial three-story brick building, and an encumbrance of nearly five thousand dollars, which was increased to $9,853 by the contract for the completion of the build-

ing; a few old notes, practically without value, an uncompleted scholarship subscription for the endowment of the President's chair, and an uncompleted general subscription conditioned on securing $50,000. Upon the $4,200 indebtedness the trustees were paying twenty-two per cent.

Notwithstanding, Mr. Munsell accepted the position, and unasked, contracted with the board to conduct the school three years at his own expense, provided full financial control and the selection of teachers should be vested in him, a responsibility afterward shared by his brother, Edward B. Munsell, M. A., who that year became a member of the faculty. Some time before this Rev. Charles W. C. Munsell, of the Illinois Conference, a brother of the president-elect, was elected financial agent for the university, who, with the president, by untiring zeal and energy inspired such confidence among the people of the patronizing territory that success was soon assured. They advanced money for the completion of the building, finished and furnished it, and opened the school in the following September with seventeen pupils. The faculty consisted of the president, Rev. Oliver S. Munsell, M. A., Rev. J. T. Tomlin, M. A., and Edward B. Munsell, M. A.; the total enrollment for the year 1857-8 was sixty students.

The financial condition of the country made it impossible to successfully complete the scholarship subscription begun by President C. W. Sears, which if completed, would, in the end, have been a great disadvantage to the institution, if not ruinous. It was therefore deemed advisible to start a new subscription specifically for the endowment fund conditional upon the raising of cash and notes of hand to the amount of $25,000 within three years. The subscription was so drawn that if it was secured it would be available to bind the old conditional subscription for the payment of half the amount subscribed, and by means of which it was desired to liquidate the existing debt. The president took the field, with his brother, for this purpose, and with untiring zeal pushed the canvass until an amount was secured which bound enough of the original subscriptions to liquidate the indebtedness upon the institution.

At the expiration of the three years' contract, the trustees assumed the financial responsibility of the college; but, at the sug-

gestion of the Munsell brothers, adopted the rule which was inflexibly maintained until 1866, and measurably enforced until 1873, that the professors must accept pro rata the income for the year in full satisfaction of their claims. To this rule, Dr. Munsell says, the university owes its life.

The growth of the institution demanded additional buildings, and in 1868 subscriptions amounting to $40,000 were taken to erect the present main hall. It is a brick structure (with the exception of the first story, which is stone), four stories in height, and 70x140 feet. The corner-stone was laid in 1870, and the building was dedicated in June, 1871, at a cost of $100,000.

Fully awake to the importance of physical laboratories and natural history collections, President Munsell brought to his aid the wisdom and services of Richard H. Holder, a skillful ornithologist, Prof. George Vasey the distinguished botanist, Mr. Walsh of Rock Island, Prof. C. D. Wilber and Prof. Joseph Henry, LL.D., of the Smithsonian Institute, and succeeded in securing the nucleus of the present magnificent collection of natural history. Mr. Munsell, having transferred his conference membership to the Central Illinois Conference, was elected to the General Conference in 1860, which honor was conferred upon him again in 1864, and still again in 1872, and in the last conference he served as first assistant secretary. In 1863, he received the appointment by President Lincoln as a member of the board of visitors to the military academy at West Point, and was elected president of the board which numbered among its members Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Mr. Munsell was an earnest student, especially in the department of Ethics and Metaphysics, and in addition to regular correspondence for the Methodist Quarterly Review and the Southern Methodist Quarterly Review he published a text-book on Mental Philosophy which was placed in the conference course of study of his church and remained as a text-book prescribed by the bishops of the church for many years. It was also used in many of the colleges of the country. He also found time to write a work on Ethics which has never been published, but pronounced by those who have examined the manuscript to be one of the ablest and most comprehensible treatments of the subjects.

Samuel Fallows

PRESIDENT OF THE ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, 1873-1875.

Bishop Samuel Fallows, D. D., was born in England and came with his parents to this country while yet a boy. Soon after his graduation at the University of Wisconsin he was offered the vice-presidency of the Galesville University in Wisconsin, and for two years he taught there with success. Then he entered the ministry as pastor of the Methodist Church at Oshkosh and soon gained fame as an eloquent pulpit orator. When the war broke out he went to the front as chaplain of the Twenty-second Wisconsin Infantry. On the field he imbibed the spirit of the conflict and he organized the Fortieth Wisconsin Infantry, composed entirely of graduates and students of the various institutions in that state. Such a band of educated fighters had not been known in the army, and it was nicknamed "the God and morality" regiment.

As pastor of the Summerfield Methodist Church in Milwaukee, then the leading Methodist Church in Wisconsin, Bishop Fallows re-entered upon his clerical duties at the close of the war, and later on he was made pastor of the Spring Street Methodist Church in the same city. During his pastorate there Governor Fairchild appointed him, in 1871, to the office of state superintendent of public instruction, and afterwards the people elected him twice to the same important office.

In 1873 Lawrence University conferred upon him the degree of doctor of divinity. He was offered the chair of logic and rhetoric in the State University about this time, but he declined, preferring to work in the pulpit. Traces of his splendid work as superintendent of public instruction are visible in the Wisconsin public schools to the present time.

In 1873 Bishop Fallows was elected to the presidency of the Illinois Wesleyan University. Here he manifested superior qualities as an educator, reconstructed and strengthened the courses of study, thoroughly organized the School of Law and established the non-resident and post-graduate department, which has drawn the attention of so many eminent men to the University. His administration, though short, was brilliant. In 1875, having resigned the presidency of the institution, he united with the Reformed Episcopalian Church and became rector of the St. Paul's Church

of Chicago, and was soon afterwards elected Bishop. His career in that denomination and in the city of Chicago is as honorable as it is widely known.

W. H. H. Adams

PRESIDENT OF THE ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, 1875-1880.

President William Henry Harrison Adams, B. A., M. A., B. D., D. D., was born in Effingham county, Illinois, in 1840, being descended from English ancestry, of the same line as John Quincy Adams. He enlisted as a private in Company A, 111th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and in 1863 was promoted as first lieutenant and served as such until near the expiration of his term, when he was brevetted captain, and later still, as major of the regiment. He claimed to have drilled the first two thousand colored troops, formed them into companies and offered them for service.

He prepared for college in the common schools of his native state and in the preparatory school of the Northwestern University, and was graduated from that institution in 1870. He was licensed to preach at an early age and served as a student pastor in the vicinity of the university during his college course. After graduation in 1870, he was admitted to the Illinois Conference and was stationed at Monticello; afterwards, at Clinton, and was in the third year of his pastorate at that place when called to the presidency of the Illinois Wesleyan University, August 17, 1875. His administration began under gravest discouragements. The panic of 1873 depreciated values, prostrated business and indirectly added greatly to the indebtedness of the institution for its main building; but with zeal and energy rarely surpassed he devoted himself to the task of saving the institution from its financial embarassments.

In a very short time he won the confidence of the patronizing conferences. To the ministry he imparted his own boundless faith, which aroused that energy and unanimity of action among them so necessary to render possible the founding of a Christian college.

His keen insight into human nature, his intuition of character, his knowledge of forces controlling in society, his clearness, vigor, accuracy and fluency of speech, his affable manner and ready wit were all elements of his great power in the pulpit, on the plat-

form, in the class-room, in society and at the hearthstone. He became a favorite of the people who sought his services on great occasions. As a platform speaker and a man of rare skill at dedicatory services, he became widely known. In the latter service this writer never saw him excelled.

How admirably he succeeded in saving the institution from its crushing debt may be seen from the following report of a special committee appointed June, 1888, and made to the board of trustees in September of the same year:

The actual amount of the endowment of this institution is $72,989.11, consisting,

First, of notes well secured, drawing interest, with some cash on hand ready to be loaned, and in hands of treasurer	$41,931 36
Second, in original notes, and not secured	27,406 75
Third, of real estate, valued at	2,740 00
Fourth, interest notes not due and educational notes	911 00
Making a grand total of	$72,989 11
A bonded indebtedness of	22,000 00
Assets consisting of promissory notes and subscriptions, good and bad	16,310 79

The Cramp fund of about $25,000 not available, is not considered in this report.

Dr. Adams was admired and loved more sincerely and universally than any other man who has ever been connected with the Illinois Wesleyan University. To know him was to love him. In scholarship he was clear but modest; in power of interpretation, ready and masterful; in society, on the platform and in the pulpit, a magnet that irresistibly drew men unto him and his cause; in method of expression strikingly original and pleasing. When the history of the university is known as it has been made, it will not be a surprise to learn that President Adams laid down his life for the Illinois Wesleyan University.

William H. Wilder

PRESIDENT FROM 1888-1897.

At the annual meeting of the board of trustees in June, 1888, Rev. William H. Wilder, M. A., D. D., was elected president.

Dr. Wilder graduated from the Illinois Wesleyan University in 1873, and immediately took a leading position in the Illinois

Conference, by which he was honored by an election to the General Conference. He is a man of scholarly attainments and of great force and integrity of character. He has just been honored by an appointment to the Ecumenical Conference of his church, held in London.

During his administration grounds for an athletic park were secured at a cost of $2,000; lots for a janitor's residence and a gymnasium at a cost of $1,900; perhaps $15,000 was expended in improvement of buildings and grounds, putting them in excellent condition.

The Shellabarger and H. S. Swayne chemical laboratories were added to the science departments; $1,800 was expended in cases for the natural history collections, $1,000 of which was the gift of an alumnus, Rev. William Luke Cunningham, of Point Pleasant, New Jersey. Besides small valuable contributions for the museum, the university received the George W. and Rebecca S. Lichtenthaler collection, valued at $25,000. In addition to the above, cash and notes amounting to $7,500 were taken for the improvement fund. The endowment fund was increased by farm lands from Hiram Buck, D. D., valued at $27,500, not yet available; $58,500, $55,000 of which was necessary to meet the conditions of the deed executed by Hiram and Martha Buck; $6,000 by bequest from Jonathan Totten; and $600 by bequest from Miss Mary Williams. The total endowment July 1, 1895, was reported to be $187,999, including the Cramp fund.

LABORATORIES.

The Shellabarger laboratory, donated by Mr. David S. Shellabarger, of Decatur, and a few other friends of the university, greatly increased the facilities for advanced chemistry work. It is furnished with all modern conveniences, and is supplied with a full line of apparatus for accurate and advanced work. The Qualitative laboratory is thoroughly equipped with all apparatus necessary for furnishing to each student a separate outfit for performing the experiments in chemistry, and for qualitative and blow-pipe work. Perfect ventilation is secured in both laboratories by an ingenious apparatus placed therein by Mr. Henry S. Swayne.

The Henry S. Swayne private laboratory, a personal gift to Dr. Graham from Mrs. Swayne, in recognition of her husband's

friendship for him, occupies excellent quarters in rooms adjoining the other laboratories, and the university reaps the full benefit of the gift of this thoroughly equipped and highly expensive laboratory in all special and research work, and is enabled to offer to her students unexcelled advantages for special work in this branch.

Five rooms are devoted to the work of biology and physics, one being for class-room use, one for storage of plants and animals, and containing a large aquarium, and three for laboratory purposes. A room has been fitted up for the work in physics, making very commodious quarters. These laboratories are well equipped with tables and material for work. The material is supplemented by a good working library. The outfit of microscopic material in biology gives students in this line as good facilities for work as are offered by the best institutions.

THE MUSEUM.

The history of the museum is interesting as well as varied. The first catalogue, for the years 1851-2, states that "there are on the shelves of the cabinet about 1,700 specimens." This, presumably, refers to scientific specimens. From this nucleus has grown a collection that now fills to overflowing the two large rooms devoted to that purpose, worth many thousands of dollars.

We will briefly summarize the additions from time to time, as revealed by the file of catalogues. In 1860 the next statement is found concerning the collections, when "the nucleus of an interesting and valuable cabinet of mineralogy, geology and zoology, has been secured." In 1863 large and very valuable additions were made to the Museum of Natural History, particularly in the departments of geology and paleontology, by a contribution from the State Cabinet of Geology at Springfield. The collections of that year were said to number 6,000 specimens.

The next catalogue, 1863, states that the collections have been largely increased since the last announcement, summing up four thousand specimens in geology and paleontology, one thousand one hundred salt water and one thousand fresh water and land shells, a large botanical collection, one hundred specimens in ornithology, etc. The next year, 1864, there was an additional hundred birds, a valuable entomological collection, and a fine collection of minerals from the Smithsonian.

THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL OF THE ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

In 1876, Dr. George Vasey added a collection of woods of the state, and in 1872 there was received a collection of patent office models.

In 1880-81 additions were made of a collection of plants from Colorado from the Wheeler Geological Survey, plants from Utah from the Powell Geological Survey, a fine collection of corals and mollusca by purchase, and a collection of marine mollusks from the Smithsonian Institute.

In 1886 President W. H. H. Adams added 625 specimens of shells, fossils, ore, etc., while 695 specimens of various kinds were received from the United States National Museum. The additions for the year 1887 were 1,200 specimens, chiefly of pottery, minerals and fossils from the United States National Museum. No attempt was made to arrange the material for a couple of years, as there were no cases and no way consequently for arranging it. In 1891 Rev. William Luke Cunningham, Ph. D., of Point Pleasant, New Jersey, an alumnus of the university, contributed $1,000 for the preparation of cases. These were made and placed on the second floor of the main building, in the room formerly occupied by the library, the library going into the quarters vacated by the collections. The specimens were immediately cleaned and arranged for exhibition and made a good display, entirely filling the cases, though many of the shells, stones, fossils, etc., had been rendered worthless by the loss of their labels, with no way of determining or identifying them. Meanwhile many small collections kept coming in, filling the cases to overflowing.

The year 1893 was momentous in the history of the museum, and marks an epoch in its growth. In that year the museum became the recipient through bequest of the George W. and Rebecca S. Lichtenthaler collection of shells, sea algæ, and ferns.

This collection embraces shells, crustaceans, echinoderms, corallines, corals, fossil shells and plants, minerals, ferns and marine algæ. There are from six to eight thousand species of shells, and at a low estimate twenty-five thousand specimens, from all parts of the world. There are eight hundred species of marine algæ, and four hundred species of ferns. The latter include a nearly complete collection of the ferns of North America, a complete collection from the Hawaiian Islands; also many from India, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, South America, Europe, etc.

The university already possessed a fine conchological collection of several thousand species. A large part of these were given by the Smithsonian Institute, mostly marine shells, and several donations of land and fresh water shells make enough to fill three large cases. There is in the university a large collection of fossils, shells and brachiopods from the government. The herbarium contains three thousand species, with thousands of duplicates. These are largely phanerogams. Add to these Mr. Lichtenthaler's great collection of shells, ferns and sea algæ, and it is readily seen that the collections give opportunity for study equalled by few institutions.

The Museum has been named the Powell Museum, in honor of Major J. W. Powell, who was the instructor in natural science in the university from 1865 to 1868, for years the director of the United States Geological Survey, and now the director of the Bureau of Ethnology. He has never lost interest in the university and has contributed liberally to the museum. His contributions have stimulated the students, alumni, and friends, and as a result the rooms occupied by the museum, though large, are well filled. The material is in cases and drawers constructed for the purpose and patterned after those used in our large museums.

In arranging the various collections, two objects have been kept in view, the interest of the student and the interest of the public. Accordingly, systematically arranged representatives of all the material have been put in the display cases. This enables the public to see what the museum contains and also makes it attractive. The material which the display represents is arranged with special reference to the student. The groups represented are zoology, botany, geology, mineralogy, archaeology, and ethnology. For a detailed account reference should be made to the annual reports of the curator.

During the past year, Mr. George B. Harrison, of Bloomington, and the Rev. Thomas D. Weems, of Decatur, have added their private collections to those of the Powell Museum. Mr. Harrison's collection numbers nearly five thousand specimens and consists largely of exceptionally fine fossils and minerals. There are also some very choice specimens of pottery, sculptured heads, implements, and ornaments. The specimens are all numbered and catalogued, and are arranged in cases provided by the university.

This collection is known as "The George B. Harrison Collection." Mr. Weems' collection numbers eleven hundred and forty specimens of tablets, pipes, arrowpoints, spearpoints, celts, sinkers, knives, saws, hammers, discoidals, mortars, etc. There are some very rare specimens in this collections. The specimens are all numbered and catalogued, and are arranged in a case provided by the Rev. Dr. John A. Kumler, of Springfield. This collection is known as "The Rev. Thomas D. Weems Archaeological Collection."

These two collections add very much to the attractiveness and scientific value of the Museum, and offer additional advantages to students.

THE OBSERVATORY.

In October, 1894, Mr. A. C. Behr, of Chicago, presented the university an excellent reflecting telescope eighteen and one-half inches in diameter. The instrument is provided with right ascension and declination circles, a driving clock, and a two-inch finder; a parallel wire micrometer, a position micrometer, and a complete outfit of shades, eye-pieces, etc. A visual and photographic spectroscope has been designed, a duplicate of the one now in use in the Potsdam observatory, Germany. This instrument, with a splendid six-inch refracting telescope, enables the university to offer excellent opportunities for study and investigation. The observatory building is situated on the northeast corner of the campus, and is furnished with many modern improvements.

THE LIBRARIES.

In the first catalogue of the Illinois Wesleyan University, published the year of its establishment, we find it stated that there was at that time the nucleus of a miscellaneous and scientific library consisting of about one thousand volumes. This, with botanical and natural history specimens and scientific apparatus, occupied what is now the cloak room on the second floor of the preparatory building.

A short time after this the library was divided between the two literary societies and removed to the Munsellian and Belles Lettres halls, which occupied respectively the northeast room on the ground floor, and the south room on the third floor, of the preparatory building. Later we find the library increased in size, and reposing on shelves arranged for its accommodation in what is

now the natural history museum, on the second floor of the college building. Here, in a convenient, pleasant room, and under the direction of Mrs. Sue M. D. Fry, it was used by a large number of the students. But in the fall of 1891, as this room was needed for the museum, the library was again moved, this time into its present quarters on the third floor of the preparatory building.

Altogether there are about seven thousand volumes at present in the library, which is open to the students most of the hours during the day. Competent monitors are in charge, under the general supervision of the librarian, and books may be used there for reference or even taken from the library under certain conditions. There are also important department libraries in the rooms of the several professors.

THE WOMAN'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

The admission of women in 1870 to all departments of the university awakened greater interest in the education of young women among the patrons of the college generally and especially among the women themselves. A more rational conception of the education of women and of the importance of the higher education was held. This took definite form in 1874 in the organization of the Woman's Educational Association of the Illinois Wesleyan University. The object of the organization is set forth in the annual catalogue of the university of that year:

"The right of this society to exist may be explained in a few words. Women being admitted to the Illinois Wesleyan University, the authorities have indicated their wish to place in the board of instruction competent women as professors. In view of this, many of the friends of the institution have deemed it proper to express their approval, by liberally endowing at least one chair. The reasons for endowing this chair are: First, the need of more funds for the adequate support of professors; secondly, the establishing of this woman's professorship beyond all contingency, for all time to come. Accordingly, on the 3d of June, 1874, with the approval of the executive board of the university, a society was formed, and the necessary officers were appointed; and it was subsequently approved by the board of trustees and visitors.

OBJECTS.—The objects of this society are: First, the endowment of a Woman's Professorship; and secondly, the raising of a

fund to provide a home, and assist young women to educate themselves—especially such as are preparing to teach, or are called to missionary work.

PLANS, TERMS, ETC.—Gifts for these objects may be made according to the wishes of the donors.

For ten dollars a year a woman may become a member.

For ten dollars per year, for five years, a life member.

For five hundred dollars, a life manager.

For one thousand dollars, a life patron.

By the payment of appropriate amounts, gentlemen may become honorary members, life managers, or life patrons.

Gifts may be made on terms and time to suit donors.

The association at once opened a boarding hall under the direction of Mrs. C. A. Hart as superintendent. "In September, 1875, the association leased the building known as 'Major's College,' and opened a ladies' boarding hall on the Mt. Holyoke plan, and thus put in practice its second object, namely: the establishment of a Christian home where young ladies of any denomination, desiring to educate themselves, can have board at the lowest possible rates."

Subsequently the association purchased the "Major's College" property, which consisted of a beautiful block of nearly three acres and the college building. In 1884 Charles and Henrietta Cramp gave four thousand dollars to liquidate the indebtedness on the property. The association, however, agreed to pay them an annuity on the amount during the natural lives of Mr. and Mrs. Cramp. The hall was afterwards known as Henrietta Hall in honor of Mrs. Cramp. It was understood, also, that the Cramp fund, mentioned elsewhere in this book, should apply, when available, upon the endowment of the professorship selected by the association.

Several thousand dollars were expended in remodeling, repairing and finishing the hall; thirteen hundred twenty-three were raised toward an endowment of a chair which was to be selected when the amount reached five thousand dollars.

The ladies most active in the work of the association were Mrs. Prof. Jacques, Mrs. Jennie Fowler Willing, who for a short time was professor in the institution, Mrs. Sue M. D. Fry, Mrs. A. R. Riggs, Mrs. Olgah Updegraff, Miss Sarah E. Raymond, Mrs. J. A. Jackman and other elect women of Bloomington, who ungrudingly for years gave time, energy, substance and devout prayers unto

God for the advancement of the object of the association. For a number of years, Mrs. Fry, the only woman on the faculty of the college of letters, lived in the hall and was the wise and accomplished head of the Christian home. The capacity of the hall to accommodate young women was fairly taxed for some time and the women of the association deserved the congratulations of the trustees and public upon the success of their enterprise.

After a few years, the building being old and not susceptible of easy conversion into a hall after the ideas of modern architecture and appointments, the expenses became heavy on account of repairs. Mrs. Fry, whose presence was an essential factor in the home life, no longer lived in the hall, young women ceased to desire to board there, and as the success of the boarding hall depended upon attendance by young women, the association finally disbanded in 1892, the hall having been virtually abandoned by the association as a home some time before.

Before the association disbanded, however, its property and obligations were turned over to the board of trustees of the university. The old building has been torn down and the campus platted and accepted by the city as the Wesleyan subdivision of the city of Bloomington, and the lots are now being sold.

THE COLLEGE OF LAW.

The Law Department of the University was organized and put in operation April 1, 1874, by Judge R. M. Benjamin and Owen T. Reeves. The first class was graduated in June, 1875, consisting of seven members. Among the early instructors in this department, besides the persons above named, were the Hon. Robert E. Williams and Judge Lawrence Weldon.

In this department, the method of teaching law mainly by daily recitations from approved text-books, accompanied by familiar expositions and pertinent references to reported cases and the statutes of the state, was first introduced. This method of instruction proved highly satisfactory in its results and attracted marked attention, to such an extent that now in most if not all the law schools of the country the method has come into partial use. In this department, this method of instruction has grown in favor with the bench and bar, as well as in the estimation of the students,

and the high standing of the department has been gained largely by its method of teaching, combined with the efficiency of its corps of instructors.

Nearly three hundred students have been graduated since the department was organized, many of whom are now occupying leading positions at the bar, and some, important judicial positions. Judge Reuben M. Benjamin was the dean of the department from its organization to June, 1891, and was succeeded on his voluntary retirement by the present dean, Owen T. Reeves.

Besides the dean and Judge Benjamin, the faculty consists of Judge Colostin D. Myers, John J. Morrissey, Jacob P. Lindley and Roland A. Russell, all graduates of the department and thoroughly competent instructors. Judge John M. Scott, ex-chief justice of the Supreme Court of the state, has rendered the department valuable service by delivering each year a course of most interesting lectures to the students. Judge Lawrence Weldon, an early instructor, has also delighted the students each year with a course of lectures of great interest.

The attendance of students in this department has steadily increased of late years, and the department promises increased usefulness in the thorough preparation of young men for the legal profession.

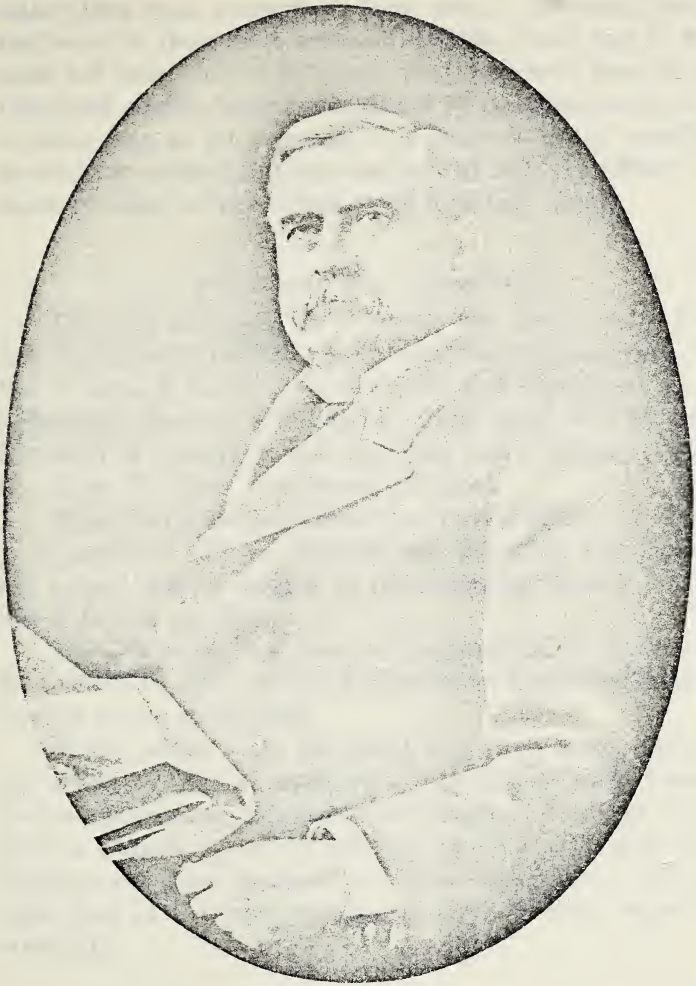
NON-RESIDENT AND GRADUATE DEPARTMENT.

Under the inspiration and guidance of President Fallows, the university, in 1874, arranged a series of courses for non-resident students, looking toward the earning of the degrees of Ph. B., M. A., and Ph. D. The object of this step was to furnish lines of systematic study for those professional men and women whose duties and environments are such as to make a resident course of study an impossibility, and yet who earnestly desire systematic study.

The department was placed in charge of Prof. Jacques, and the fees were set at $25 for the Ph. B. course, and $30 for the Ph. D. course. The first student to enroll was Rev. G. G. Roberts, of Mohawk Valley, Ohio, on October 3, 1874. During the first eight years of its existence enrollments were not numerous, averaging six a year for the first five years.

After being in control for a couple of years, Prof. Jacques gave way to Prof. Crow, and the latter seems to have remained in charge until 1882, when Prof. C. W. Moss, now of the University of Illinois, was made dean. At once the enthusiasm and energy of the new dean manifested themselves in decided improvement of the courses and in greatly increased enrollment. A Canadian branch was established by him, and Rev. Dr. Francis R. Beattie, of Bradford, Ontario, was placed in charge, to be succeeded a few years later, on the removal of Dr. Beattie from Canada, by Dr. T. M. MacIntyre, president of the Presbyterian Female College at Toronto, who still has control there. Shortly after establishing the Canadian course, Dr. Moss also established an English department, placing it under the supervision of Rev. Dr. Joseph Fennemore, at present of Hastings, England. The latter department has met with a fair degree of success, and the Canadian department has been, and is now, remarkably prosperous, there being over sixty strong, earnest students of that country actively pursuing the work.

In the spring of 1891, the connection of Dr. Moss with the university being severed, Dr. R. O. Graham, the present dean, was chosen to take his place. It is not too much to say that the prosperity and success of the department has been as great under the present administration as during any previous period. The courses of study have been thoroughly revised and systematized, and the standards of requirements for entrance and for graduation have been greatly advanced. Nearly one hundred matriculates enter the courses every year, and over four hundred mature, earnest and talented men and women are today taking advantage of the opportunities offered thereby for pursuing a thorough and systematic course of study at home, knowing that rigid examinations will test the thoroughness of their work. The majority of these students are teachers, who have been for years in the class-room and who have learned the need of advancement beyond the field covered by the normal schools, of which most of them are graduates. As none who have not already reached the age of twenty-four years can enter upon any of the courses, and few indeed beyond that age ever undertake a resident course, the department interferes in no way with resident work, and both dean and faculty always encourage those who come within the circle of their influence to



ISAAC NEWTON PHILLIPS.

enter upon resident study, here or in some other good college, rather than upon a course of home study. However, the letters that come to them from scores of students whose way to resident work had been completely barred, have convinced those in charge that great good is being accomplished by the department, and that no other plan as yet proposed is so successfully and satisfactorily meeting the needs of this large and worthy body of students, against whom the gates of the college world have been closed.

THE PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT.

From the beginning the university has maintained a Preparatory Department. With the exception of the two years, 1865-7, when Rev. William R. Goodwin was principal, this department was under the general direction of the faculty until 1883, when by action of the board of trustees, it was organized into a distinct school, and Rev. Hyre D. Clark was chosen principal.

Since that time its courses have been definitely set forth and so strengthened that its curricula now comprises four years' work and several courses leading to corresponding courses in the College of Letters and Science.

The department has been an important factor in the work of the institution, many of her most eminent graduates having been enrolled among its students.

Within recent years the board has given much attention to this school and has so equipped it that it now ranks among the foremost preparatory schools of the country. Its large patronage from its immediate vicinity indicates its efficiency and merit. The principal and three assistants give their entire time to this school, while most of the college professors assist in their respective departments.

FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY, 1901.

Edgar Moncena Smith, M. A., D. D., president, 1508 North Main, professor of philosophy; Robert Orlando Graham, M. A., Ph. D., 1108 North East, Isaac Funk professor of chemistry; Robert Benson Steele, M. A., Ph. D., 408 East Chestnut, professor of Latin; Wilbert Ferguson, M. A., 1108 North East, professor of Greek, secretary of the faculty; Adelbert Farrington Caldwell,

M. A., 1001 North Evans, Charles Cramp professor of English language and literature, librarian; Calvin Weininger Green, M. A., 1212 North East, professor of mathematics and astronomy; Joseph Culver Hartzell, M. S., 508 East Chestnut, professor of biology and geology, curator of museums; Oliver Lincoln Lyon, M. A., Ph. D., 1208 North Fell ave., instructor in sociology and economics; Mae Deering Smith, Ph. B., 1508 North Main, instructor in French; ——— ——— ———, instructor in physics; Delmar Duane Darrah, B. S., Hoblit Building, professor of elocution; Joseph Whitefield Smith, M. D., 1126 East Olive, lecturer on physiology and hygiene; Harvey Clelland DeMotte, M. A., Ph. D., 902 North Main, principal of preparatory school; Lyde Rachel Porter, 407 East Front, assistant in preparatory school;; S. Yanagi Wara, B. S., 504 East Olive, assistant in chemical laboratories; Sain Welty, M. A., LL. B., 612 East Grove, political science and sociology; *Rev. David L. Brethour, M. A., Ph. D., Tilsonburg, Ont., head of Canadian department; *Rev. Joseph Finnemore, M. A., Ph. D., Doncaster, Eng., head of English department; Judge Owen Thornton Reeves, LL. D., 306 West Chestnut, negotiable instruments, torts, equity jurisprudence, common law and equity pleadings, and legal ethics; Judge Reuben Moore Benjamin, LL. D., 510 East Grove, domestic relations, sales, real property and constitutional law; John James Morrissey, LL. B., 907 North West, partnership and suretyship; Jacob P. Lindley, LL. B., 510 East Locust, elementary law and contracts; Judge Rolland A. Russell, LL. B., 100 State, criminal law, wills and probate practice; Charles Laban Capen, M. A., 710 North East, bailments, corporations, and damages; Darius Harlan Pingrey, LL. D., 822 East Washington, personal property, conflict of law, international law and Roman law; Hon. Lawrence Weldon, judge U. S. Court of Claims; Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson, 901 North McLean; Hon. Joseph W. Fifer, 909 North McLean; Hon. Jonathan H. Rowell, 909 North Evans, lecturers on special topics; Mrs. John Robert Gray, 1305 North Main, Oliver Ross Skinner, 1115 East Monroe, joint directors of the College of Music, piano, theory, harmony, counterpoint, canon, fugue, composition, analysis and history of music.

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*Members of non-resident faculty.

ASSISTANTS.

Fred E. Hobart, Normal, Ill., piano, organ, theory and violoncello; Miss Effie Antoinette Allinson, 112 West Locust, piano, organ and theory; Nellie Elizabeth Walker, Normal, Ill., piano, organ and theory; Katharine Evans, Normal, Ill., reed organ; Mrs. Farie Stevick Skinner, 1115 East Monroe, principal vocal department; Miss Isabel Stevick, 1115 East Monroe, voice culture and singing; Ernest Lynnwood Hersey, 704 East Monroe, principal violin department, violin, mandolin and guitar; Oscar Lemuel Wilson, Ph. C., Ph. B., director of the College of Fine Arts, history of painting, technical perspective, esthetics; John Jackson Mayes, Eddy Building, principal of the School of Photography; Mrs. Alice Wilson, assistant to director; Claude Marshall Dunlap, first assistant instructor, School of Painting; Miss Anna Elizabeth Murray, 703 East Douglas, assisting in School of Painting.

Early Days at Normal.

Delivered in Normal Hall, June 22, 1897, by J. H. Burnham,* of Bloomington, Illinois, of the class of 1861. Fortieth anniversary.

"Venerable men, you have come down to us from a former generation."

This familiar quotation from the school readers of our early days is probably the sentiment to-night on the part of the normal and model students towards those of us who are on this platform as representatives of the past. We can readily believe that you of the present are somewhat pleased that so many of us have "come down to you from a former generation," but none of you can imagine how delighted we are to be down here with you on this occasion, and none of us ancients will object if it is our good fortune to be here when the fiftieth anniversary shall arrive in 1907.

You have doubtless heard that forty years ago next October, the State Normal University opened in Major's Hall, in Bloomington, with twenty-nine students, which was increased to 127 before the end of the school year.

My predecessor (Prof. Enoch A. Gastman, now of Decatur, Ill., but formerly of Hudson) has told you that he was one of the first to register on the Normal roster, and it is proper for me to state that I entered as representative from Cook county in the

*John Howard Burnham, born in Essex, Mass., Oct. 31, 1834, came to Illinois in 1855; to Bloomington in April, 1858. Was captain of Company A, 33d Illinois Infantry, the "Normal Regiment," his company having been composed at its organization mostly of students attending the Normal. From July, 1864, to February, 1867, he edited the Bloomington Pantagraph without other assistance. He assisted in organizing the McLean County Historical Society; corresponding member of the Chicago Historical Society; member of the executive committee of the Illinois State Historical Society. See biographical sketch, page 509, Vol. I, Transactions McLean County Historical Society.

spring term in 1858, which was during the first school year, and this early entrance gives me my right to be reckoned as a Normal pioneer.

This institution was located forty years ago, in 1857, at a place which was at first called the Junction, then North Bloomington, and which was not named Normal till 1858. The Normal building was started in the summer of 1857, but the financial panic of that year caused the work to be suspended for two years, although it was partially finished in time for the first graduating class to appear in the Normal school room in June, 1860, at which time a public collation was given in Normal Hall.

During the first three years, the Normal students knew only old Major's Hall as their home, and the different surroundings of the early students of those first three years will be the scenes of most of the reminiscences of this evening.

Perhaps it is now proper to confess that the citizens of Bloomington and McLean county contributed their $140,000, which secured the location of this institution, largely as a real estate speculation. Their willingness to improve the free schools of the state was, of course, considerably in evidence, but the foundation of the Normal school boom of 1857 was laid deep in corner lots. The unfortunate students of our first few years were made to feel in a variety of ways, that the Normal school boomers were considerably disappointed at their somewhat raw and uncouth appearance, as we were generally poor, were not richly dressed, and were as far as possible from being liberal in our expenditures.

Our work in Major's Hall as carried on during the first three years of Normal's history, was done under serious disadvantages compared with the present. Our numbers were not large, rising never as high as 150, I believe, but the building was generally overcrowded. Its rooms were badly arranged, and I will leave you to imagine that our studies were pursued with great difficulty.

Our reference library was small. We had access to but few books outside of our regular text-books, and all of our surroundings were poor and meager. We looked forward to better days for the Normal, full of faith that in due time all of the good things you now enjoy would be added unto the few we then possessed.

I well remember a trip to the present Normal taken by a large party of Normal students at the opening of the first spring term of the first year of the institution's existence.

Where you now see the flourishing city of Normal, was a bare prairie. North of the Chicago & Alton track, and east and west of the Illinois Central, where is now the best part of the town, there was not a building of any kind, except a farm house or two, and the rough building which had contained workmen's tools, standing near the unfinished stone foundation of the Normal building. This foundation was a little above the top of the ground, work having been discontinued in the fall of 1857.

All around us was nothing but an apparent wreck. There were no workmen about, and we heard of no plans for finishing the structure. None of us could see any hope of what is visible here to-day, but nearly all of us had faith that the state of Illinois would some time finish the building, and that between us all, the educational people of the state, the legislature, the people of McLean county, our teachers and ourselves, the future would somehow bring about what has since come to pass.

One of us had brought along a plan of this building, with a picture of how it would look when finished, and this view gave us courage, even if the dismal surroundings did look as disheartening as can be imagined. I also remember that the young men of our party, or those who did not feel called upon to act as escorts to the few young ladies, went over to where is now the business part of Normal, east of the Illinois Central track, then a beautiful plat of smooth, green grass, and enjoyed an old-fashioned game of baseball, a game which I feel sure would be an everlasting discredit to your crack baseball team if played by them as we played it in 1858.

STUDENTS OF THE OLDEN TIME.

The Normal students of those early days were rather a seedy, perhaps it would be truer to say, a needy set. They were aptly described by one of our most talented alumni, whose name is perhaps the best known of any of our graduates, Mr. Henry B. Norton, one of my classmates of the class of 1861, in a letter read here fifteen years ago, on the occasion of our twenty-fifth anniversary.

"We were shabbily dressed in those days. I think my pantaloons were generally too short, and my coats seemed to have been made for some other person. We were very poor, but very plucky. We boarded ourselves, mainly on corn mush, washed the floors and built the fires at Normal Hall, worked hard, lived hard, and were poorly provided in all things. Our parents were sad-faced, struggling pioneers of the prairies; but we were cheery, resolute and happy in our life and our work. To the toiling youth of frontier homes, thirsting for knowledge, the Illinois Normal University opened the gateway of a new life. We loved it, rejoiced in it, and were thoroughly loyal to its name and fame."

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"We were free in our conduct, to a singular extent. No school rules rested upon us. Our hours and methods were wholly our own. We lived as we pleased, formed our friendships and associations, made our calls and managed our affairs, entirely at our own choice and pleasure. Very few schools were ever so slightly governed. I do not believe that our successors of to-day can be journeying under any similar slackness of rein. Nevertheless, the record of those years was a thoroughly Spartan one. We were from Puritan households, disciplined in self-restraint. Industry and poverty were our safeguards."

This accurate description of the kind of students who formed our early classes, shows that the Bloomingtonians were not to blame if they were a little disappointed over the first returns from their Normal investment, and it was no wonder that in many instances—not all— they failed to recognize our real worth. We were actually much better than we looked.

As Mr. Norton says, in the quotation, "We worked hard, and lived hard." We had very few amusements. We had no baseball team, no football team, no basketball team, no track team, no class colors, and no Normal yell. The only athletics I ever heard of was the occasional use of dumbbells by the young men and grace-hoops by the young ladies. The actual truth is that we studied nearly all of the time, and we had no time for these amusements, or any fancy accomplishments. The old students believe that you of to-day either have easier lessons, or learn easier, or learn less than we did, if you find time for so many athletic amusements. We could not find the time, and so we plodded quietly along and lost the good times you appear to enjoy.

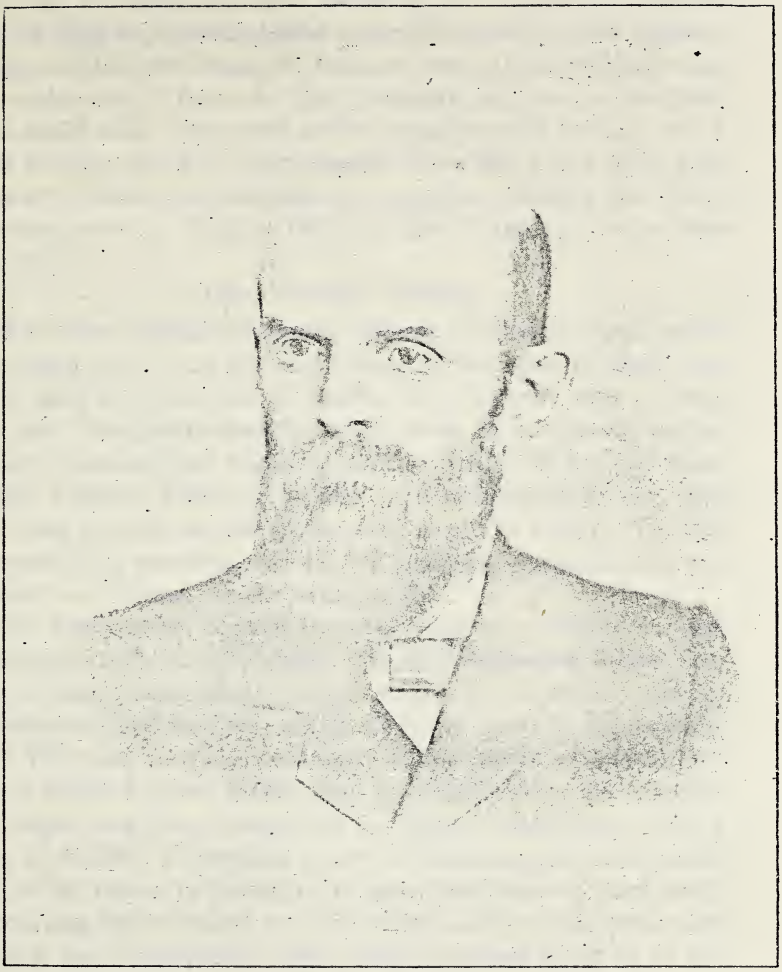
For exercise, some of us took long walks, but these were the exceptions. I was one of the walkers, and my friend here, P. R. Walker, was another. I was also something of a sprinter in those days, and when, later, I won a foot race in the summer of 1862,

down in Mississippi, keeping just out of reach of rebel racers, bringing myself safely away, and thus avoiding capture, I felt as proud as the proudest member of your track team to-day. The remembrance of the event so stirs my blood to-night, that in spite of my three score years, I hereby challenge any of the old graduates to a foot race, and if your own track team shall happen to challenge me to a hundred yard dash tomorrow, I shall give the challenge a most respectful consideration.

PICNIC IN MAJOR'S HALL.

Major's Hall was in the third story of a business block with class rooms on the second floor, at the southwest corner of East and Front streets. It is now a two story building. It was surrounded by stores and business houses, and compared with modern school and class rooms, was a very dismal situation. No wonder, therefore, that the Normal students looked forward with joyful anticipations to a proposed picnic in the grove on the first of May, 1858.

Committees were appointed, the ever-present grace hoops ordered for the athletic department, or, perhaps I should say, for everybody; special partners engaged by some of the young men, and as is usual in such cases, some of the young ladies were disappointed, but were ready to go in groups, classes, or sections by themselves, many of the bashful young men being thoughtless enough to prefer going alone. However, none of these incidents are worthy of remark, and they are introduced here merely to show that we of the former generation were not different from the young people of the present. The point of this story is to be found in the fact that on Saturday it rained hard all day, and not only did it rain on that Saturday, but also on every other Saturday during the month of May. By this time we had fallen into the habit of making all of our picnic arrangements depend upon the state of the weather on the following Saturday, and every Saturday during the months of May and June of the famous rainy season of 1858, did the rains descend and the floods pour. That picnic was fated. Historic accuracy compels me to state that on the few sunny week days which we enjoyed occasionally, some of the couples who had made arrangements to picnic together, managed to take long walks, or on rainy days, to study the dictionary together in the



CAPT. JOHN H. BURNHAM,

Chairman Executive Committee McLean County Historical Society.

large class room, but that May day picnic was very indefinitely postponed. Finally, when we were near the end of the term, and there was left only one more Saturday, we desperately resolved that the May day picnic should come off, weather or no weather, in Major's Hall, and come off it did, in fine style, notwithstanding the weather out of doors for that Saturday only was as charming as we could wish. We would not be cheated again by rain, and I doubt if from that day to the present, there was ever a more jolly crowd of Normal students than the one that attended the indoor May day picnic at Major's Hall, the last Saturday of the June term, 1858.

EARLY NORMAL METHODS.

The new Normal University offered both sexes equal privileges, being one of the first institutions in the state of which this can be said, and therefore we had the New Woman with us forty years ago. She quietly took her place in all of our classes, and in the most charming and engaging manner carried off her full share of class honors. Those of us who were vanquished by her, still insist that she was as bewitching then as she is to-day. We will go beyond that assertion, for we will gallantly maintain that our Normal New Women are not even yet old.

We who entered Normal in early times were obliged to have considerable faith in the future. We did not realize as you can, what brilliant educational futures might be in store. College professors in those days won nearly all of the prizes in the teaching line. Very few positions were open in the public schools of this state at salaries above $800. The first assistant in the Chicago high school was then thought to be highly remunerated with a salary of $1200. It required a love of teaching and considerable faith in the future to induce us to give three years of hard study in preparing for a demand not yet created, and we who persevered and took the whole course, were often in serious doubt as to the wisdom of our action. Many of our brightest students left and went to other institutions, and the speculators in Normal property are under more obligations than they imagine, to those brave students who resolutely remained and finally became active and energetic Normal teachers, giving fame and standing to the first great Normal school in the state of Illinois.

You will probably be told during these anniversary days, that when this institution first started, Normal teaching was in its infancy. The aim of our teachers was to teach us the foundation principles of what we were to teach in the public schools. These principles were taught by methods quite different from those in vogue to-day. We were taught to think and taught to study, to investigate principles, and to work, work, work hard. But there was then very little said about the correct methods of teaching, or about different methods, or any particular method. The actual fact is that very few books had then been written on Normal or higher methods of teaching. Page's Theory and Practice of Teaching was almost the only text-book accessible. Barnard's Journal of Education and Horace Mann's works were almost the only storehouses within our reach, and we were not even compelled to study these, or to do more than to give one term to Theory and Practice. Those who are familiar with the rich treasures in this line now at hand, some of them mined and refined by teachers of this institution, can scarcely imagine the destitution of those early times.

The first Normal course was heavily weighted with mathematics, where we traveled under able leadership, in the regular course as far as Analytical geometry, while we were also compelled to give two years to Latin. This explanation will help illustrate how we contrived to keep busy without some of the modern subjects of Normal study, and without the aid of the modern athletic courses. Our excursions into the higher mathematics and our compulsory investigations into Caesar and Virgil, may have been the means of preventing us from examining very carefully into the psychological theories of the time. Mental philosophy was in our course of study, but it made little impression upon our early classes. We never learned the meaning of apperception, and it is very doubtful if some of the pioneers of those days can tell its meaning to-day.

We delved and labored; sometimes at a disadvantage from the want of sufficient numbers of properly trained teachers. This want was filled partially, by the employment of several pupil teachers, taken from the most advanced classes. This system of pupil teaching was quite a feature of the early days. It had at least

one merit; it insured that the Normal methods already introduced by our excellent teachers should be given in a good second-hand manner to the entering classes, which was far better than to have these classes trained by teachers who knew nothing of Normal methods. Skillful Normal teachers were remarkably scarce in the west forty years ago, and it is probably true that the demand is not yet fully supplied, and that magnificent careers still await the best Normal graduates of the present.

It would be interesting to compare the course of study of 1857 to 1861 with that of to-day; to compare our methods of the book study of English grammar with the modern systems of language drill; our "sound" analysis of the alphabet with the present practices; our mechanical study of botany and physiology with the more instructive and deeply interesting illustrations given in the modern laboratories, but this is scarcely the time or place to make this comparison, to say nothing of your humble servant's inability to explain it all perfectly, as he must remember that his only qualification on this occasion is that of being one of the ancients himself, and as such, he naturally shrinks from being compared with the more polished graduates of the present period.

We had no professors in the Normal faculty for the first four or five years. It is true that this institution was legally known as the Normal University, but our teachers were obstinately resolved not to be called professors, and I believe that title took root and grew about the latter part of the war. Perhaps one reason why it was not popular was because we had one "professor" in the early part of 1860. He was Professor Washington Irving Vescellius, the great American card writer, was employed by the board to give writing lessons to the school, was very careful to let the world know he was a live professor, and appeared to wonder greatly that our teachers were not also proud to be called professors. His early education had been somewhat neglected, and we need not wonder that his services were soon dispensed with, after he had proudly given to a convulsed school a very carefully prepared lesson on the "Shyrographic curve," and the general subject of "Shyrography." We had no more professors in our time, and it is remarkable that the title ever arrived at such a degree of respectability after our early experience.

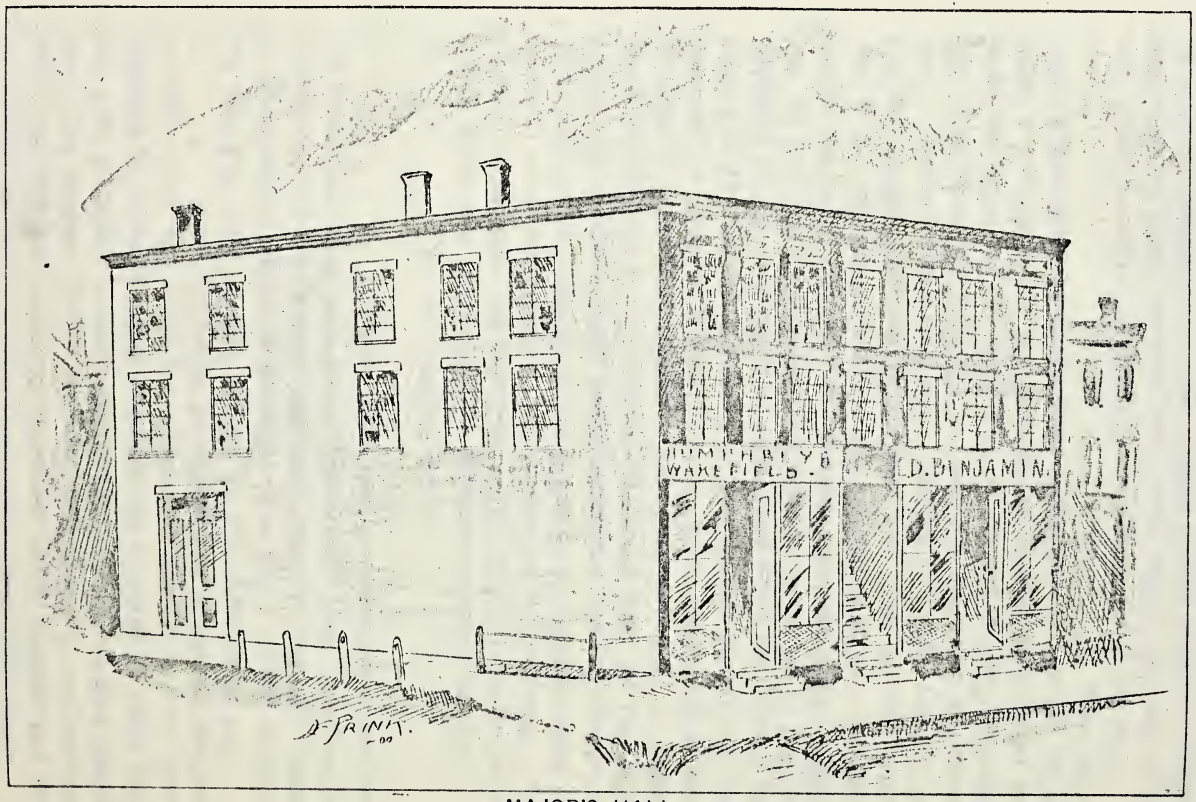
THE MODEL SCHOOL AND THE SOCIETIES.

We must remember that one great department of the Normal has developed enormously since the beginning; and this was the model school. It started in Major's Hall in Bloomington, under that pattern teacher, Miss Mary Brooks. It then occupied but one room, and for three years was used but little as a place of practice for the Normal students. In September, 1860, when this building was opened, the model high school department was started under Joseph G. Howell, of the class of 1860, barely of the grade, however, of the ancient grammar school. Its primary department in 1860 passed under the charge of Miss Fannie Washburne, of the class of 1860. Its later development and high standing must be well known to you, and the scholarship of its high school graduates is not second to that of those who have received their diplomas from the Normal department.

Its noble and scholarly record is a part of the heritage of us all, and I object decidedly to making any apologies for its untimely taking off. It was decapitated by the buzz-saw of ex-Governor Altgeld a few years ago, and if he had any sufficient reason for his action, it never made itself clear to my understanding. It will devolve on others to do justice to the model high school and the Normal training school, and other departments, and to see that none of the grand history of this institution is forgotten. but I must give passing mention to these different departments, which now demand and have secured several fine buildings which were not needed in pioneer days.

Interesting reminiscences come crowding forward, but most of them must be omitted for the want of time. I can but barely allude to the formation of the Philadelphian and Wrightonian societies, which were organized during the first school year. I was a loyal Wrightonian, and believed firmly that this institution would soon have room for two large societies, and that it was a pleasant duty to help place them on as good a foundation as possible.

As I look back over the forty years of the past and see the two literary societies struggling with their rude and almost awkward methods, I am surprised to find that we were so proud of our immature efforts, and am obliged to admit that the societies of to-day far excel those of the past in polish and general culture.



MAJOR'S HALL.

The want of books was severely felt by us, and the members of the two societies made successful efforts to establish their own libraries, but I believe that since the society libraries have been placed with the general library, the members appear to have lost that sense of pride in the selection and possession of desirable books that we enjoyed, and which was one of the chief causes of our deep interest in the societies of those early years.

But considering that we did the best we could and that the societies greatly aided us in attempts at mental improvement, I believe that the members of the early classes need not be ashamed at the humble beginnings made towards what have now become the matured embodiments of their early ideals.

WAR CLOUDS.

The presidential campaign of 1860, while not nearly as exciting as that of 1896, plainly indicated the approach of the civil war. Compromises on slavery had, however, become so common, we were generally of the opinion that another compromise would be arranged by the politicians, which would postpone the conflict to beyond our time and we proceeded with our studies during the winter of 1860 and 1861, with comparatively little thought of what might be the result. In our debating societies, we generally took the ground that we were in no danger of civil war, and when the terrible war cloud burst upon us at the fall of Fort Sumpter, and five or six of our young men enlisted at the first call for volunteers, the Normal was stunned and paralyzed almost beyond expression. Joseph G. Howell, one of the most brilliant young men of the class of 1861, then principal of the model school, was one of the very first to volunteer. On his recommendation, I was selected to finish the ten weeks of the term still remaining. He afterwards lost his life at Fort Donellson, and one of the results of our twenty-fifth Normal anniversary was the placing of a tablet to his memory in the school room where he performed his last school work.

The fire of patriotism burned so fiercely in this institution that all of our able bodied young men appeared likely to follow the example of these gallant leaders, until our president, Charles E. Hovey, engaged a drill master and encouraged us to organize

as a military company. We met after school hours daily and on Saturdays, and soon became quite proud of our military training, and resolved to continue our school studies to the end of the term, or until such time as it became plainly evident our military services would be needed. Our drill ground was just east of the Normal campus on what was then vacant land, where may now be seen the Normal public school and the churches. Time will permit me only to allude to some of incidents of those exciting days, when Normal students prepared their lessons literally under the shadows of dark and threatening war clouds.

We gathered in the hall one afternoon to accept a new silk banner presented to us by Mrs. Hovey and the ladies of Normal, when one of the young ladies of the graduating class, Miss Sophie Crist, delivered an eloquent address, when America and the Star Spangled Banner were tremblingly sung, when most of the audience, and the young ladies in particular, were affected by tears. This flag was carried by the Normal students' company for several years and is here displayed for the first time since the war.

On another occasion, we turned out in military order to do honor to the memory of Stephen A. Douglas, who had just died.

On July 2, 1861, the day before the close of the school year, we were marshalled in the shade at the rear of the building to listen to a patriotic address from the Hon. W. H. Green, of Cairo, then, as now, a member of the state board of education.

We broke ranks at the end of the term with the resolution that as soon as there was a fresh call for volunteers, we would proceed to the front in a body.

THE NORMAL REGIMENT.

Although the war had lasted then two months, it scarcely yet seemed real. We were still hoping for some great compromise, or for a speedy ending of the war, and were all astounded when the result of the battle of Bull Run, a few weeks later, convinced the public that, in the words of the lamented Douglas, we must make "the most stupendous preparations for war."

It really belongs to this history to state that our president raised a regiment, the Thirty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, called the "Normal Regiment." He went to the war as Colonel Charles E. Hovey, was promoted for bravery and military efficiency

to be brigadier-general, and afterwards, by congress, was brevetted major-general of volunteers.

If ever an officer won the love and admiration of the soldiers under his command, it was General Hovey, who also possessed the unbounded confidence of General W. T. Sherman, who was his superior officer.

Our student's military company organized as Company A of the Thirty-third regiment, its first captain being Professor L. H. Potter, while Professor Ira Moore became captain of another company. A large number of students from colleges and other institutions, as well as school teachers, enlisted in this regiment.

The proudest day of my own life was when I was elected first lieutenant of this students' company of noble young men, of which I afterwards became captain. H. J. Dutton, who was also a graduate of the class of 1861, was captain in January, 1865, at which time the company, with the regiment, reenlisted in the field for another three years.

I wish I could now appropriately do honor to the score of Normal students and teachers who lost their lives in the country's service. I should like to eulogize those brave and noble men, but I can barely mention a few of the most deserving, all of whom were my warm, personal friends.

Lieutenant-Colonel L. H. Potter, of the Thirty-third Illinois regiment, one of our Normal teachers, and a graduate of Yale College, was the first captain of the Normal Students' company in the Normal regiment. He was brave, kind, gentle and true. He died since the war as a professor in Knox College, Illinois, from wounds received in the war.

Lieutenant Joseph G. Howell's record will last as long as the history of this institution endures. One of the graduates of our first class, the first teacher of the model school in this building, he enlisted at the first call for volunteers, soon became first lieutenant in the Eighth Illinois Infantry, and was killed at Fort Donnellson.

Colonel Julian E. Bryant, our teacher of drawing, was an artist of high standing, though a young man. He was a nephew of William Cullen Bryant, and had the real poetic temperament of the true artist. Those fine paintings of Grand Tower, Illinois, and Pilot Knob, Missouri, which have hung in Normal Hall since his departure for the war, are beautiful testimonials to his ability.

He was promoted to the command of a regiment of colored troops, and lost his life in the Trinity river, in Texas. He first entered the service in our Normal regiment as lieutenant of Company E.

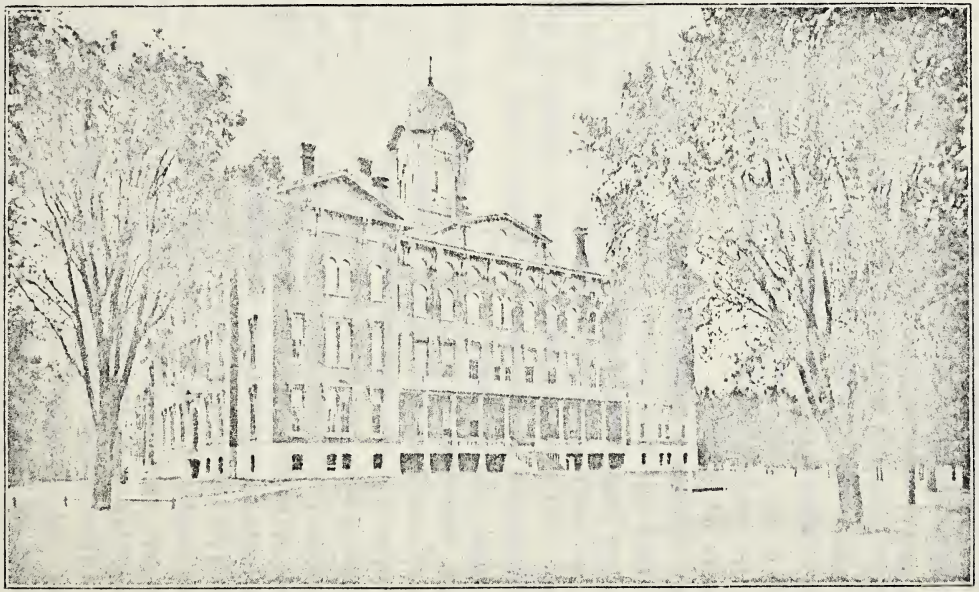
Corporal Alvin T. Lewis, of Normal, a member of the model school, one of our Normal students' company, was killed in a skirmish in Mississippi, dying at my feet; and a cousin of his, Private William A. Pearce, also of this town of Normal, and of the model school, was killed in one of the famous battles before Vicksburg.

Then there was the noble Charles M. Clark, of the Second Louisiana, who was massacred at Milliken's Bend, Louisiana, because captured in command of colored troops.

Major Henry H. Pope, of the Thirty-third Illinois regiment, one of the very first to enter this institution forty years ago, was a member of the Normal regiment, served entirely through the war and then made his home in the south. His name has been added to the long list of martyrs whose lives were taken by the Ku Klux Klan, who murdered poor Pope in his office in a parish in Louisiana a few years ago.

Others of our fallen brave deserve mention, but I must hasten on to observe that our graduates and under-graduates, and members of the model school were represented in forty-nine different regiments in the service, besides those who kept together in the Thirty-third, or Normal regiment, and no less than thirty-six names are to be found on the muster roll of that gallant body, whose names are also on the roll of this institution. The Normal regiment's gallant career is well known in the history of our civil war. Its old flag at the state house bears the names of important battles; among them, the battles of Fredericktown, Cotton Plant, Champion Hills, Big River Bridge, Vicksburg, Fort Esperanza, and Mobile.

The Normal regiment was watched with great interest by the educational people of the state, and evidence of this was given in the fall of 1861, when a delegation of the teachers of Cook county visited it in the field at Ironton, Missouri, and presented a beautiful stand of national colors, the same colors, now torn and battle-scarred, which you see on this platform. Proudly were these borne in many a contest, tenderly were they cared for by our color-



NORMAL UNIVERSITY.

bearers, and they participated is as many battles as did our state and national flags which were the property of the government and were regularly in use.

The educational influence of the Normal was very seriously injured by the war, and this is the proper place to call attention to that fact. Of the fifteen young men who graduated in the first three classes, twelve, every single individual not physically disabled, volunteered in the Union army. Their labors in the educational field were therefore but slight till after the close of the war; and several of these graduates were, like myself, diverted from teaching by reason of the war. Most of the young men who were in the lower classes, and who were expecting to take the full course, many of whom would have graduated in 1862, 1863 and 1864, also enlisted, and were forced away from their chosen profession by the war, so that these next classes were much smaller than would otherwise have been the case, besides causing them to to be made up mostly of young ladies, as nearly all of our young men, whether graduates or not, who were physically able, left school and started for the front.

This subtraction, by the war, of teaching force from what might be called the natural, normal teaching strength of our new university, has never, to my knowledge, been fairly called to the attention of the public, and I firmly believe that had the labors of all these young men been directed into the channels intended, the name of this institution would have been most favorably known much earlier in its history.

One of the natural results of the changes caused by the war, was to bring to the front rank of the teaching profession in this state, a large number of our best qualified young lady graduates, and from that time to the present, other causes have tended in the same direction, so that in computing the proper division of honor between the two sexes, it will happen that much the larger share goes to the ladies, greatly to their own credit, and very greatly to the benefit of the educational world in general.

FORTY YEARS OF NORMAL HISTORY.

During the forty years of Normal history, which we are now commemorating, many a talented young man and young woman has here laid the foundation of a life of great usefulness, many

have exhibited abilities of the highest order. The records of the institution and the general reputation of the Normal graduates and under-graduates; of our model high school graduates, and of our training school pupils, must all be taken together to ascertain the high level of the general attainments of those who have been pupils here for longer or shorter periods.

I find myself mentioning the gentlemen who have attended this institution, almost forgetful of the fact that the ladies have outnumbered them, and also that our records show that they have fully maintained themselves in the studies of the course and in the later struggles with the world outside. Others may be better prepared than myself to give the facts, but my own belief is that the schools of this state, to say nothing of its families, have received far more benefit from the ladies who have attended here, than from the other sex.

This institution has most assuredly met the expectation of the public as is proven by the small number of critical complaints again its methods, and also by the fact that the establishment of the Southern Illinois Normal, has been followed by appropriations for more Normal institutions in the eastern and northern portions of the state.

A very large number of our graduates have attained high rank in their profession and I must mention a few, from the first five classes, even at the risk of omitting many of the most deserving of mention, and must leave the later graduates for others to remember.

Professor John Hull, now living in the state of Washington, one of the most talented of the first class, that of 1860, after obtaining high distinction in the profession, held the position of president of the Southern Illinois Normal School at Carbondale for several years, relinquishing his place on account of ill health a few years ago.

It gives me particular pleasure to refer to one of the representatives of Normal, Mr. E. A. Gastman, who has just addressed us. He went directly to Decatur in 1860, where he has since labored faithfully in the public schools, being now city school superintendent. For twenty-two years he has been a member of the state board of education, and it has been his pleasant duty to at-

tend many Normal examinations and many Normal commencements.

One associate of these pioneers in the class of 1860, the lamented and talented Joseph G. Howell, has already been mentioned and my only regret is that his real worth has not been better illustrated by myself.

Aaron Gove, once adjutant of the Normal regiment, now superintendent of schools in Denver, Colorado, one of the class of 1861, has achieved distinction as an educator, having placed the schools of that large western city upon a high plane, which has attracted the attention of educators all over the land. He is brilliant and versatile, possesses a deep insight into the minds of children as well as men of the world, and is a gentleman who has highly honored the Illinois Normal. It is a matter of deep regret to me that Professor Gove was not able to send us his own estimate of the life and character of our mutual friend, Mr. Norton, and it devolves upon me to make some mention of this talented member of the class of 1861. I believe it has been generally considered that Henry B. Norton, of Ogle county, was the brightest student that ever graduated here. It always seemed to me that Norton could and would look at everything through the eyes of a poet, that everything he studied or thought about, had to be translated, so to speak, into some kind of poetic language before his mind could take it in, and when once there, understood and comprehended, it was there for all time, ready for future use, or for the pleasures of contemplation. He frequently preferred interesting reading to routine study, and in this manner crammed his mind with those inexhaustable stores of learning which caused wonder to his associates later in life, when assistant principal of the Kansas and California State Normal Schools. His reading and writing of poetry went on unceasingly. He had a way of bringing in unlooked for treasures of knowledge, gleaned long before, or by recent reading, given because of the lessons under consideration, and in the most unassuming manner, interjecting this additional information into a class-room recitation, in a way that charmed and instructed both teacher and pupil. His nearly twenty years of successful teaching in this state, in Kansas and California, were brought to an untimely end in 1885, at which time he was an

eloquent educational lecturer, and minister of the gospel in California.

Another member of this class, Mr. P. R. Walker, superintendent of the Rockford schools, is with us to-night in his official capacity as member of the state board of education. He was my classmate, roommate and intimate friend, and I must allow myself to do no more than to refer to his well-known high position among the educators of Illinois.

The Hon. Logan Holt Roots, son of that well known teacher and early friend of Normal, the lamented B. G. Roots, of Tamaroa, graduated in 1862, became an officer in the union army, was for two years a member of congress from Arkansas, and died a few years ago, leaving great wealth. He was a hard working student and a remarkable mathematician.

Hon. L. B. Kellogg, of the class of 1864, pursued study at Normal some time after graduation. He has been principal of the State Normal School at Emporia, Kansas, and has also attained high standing at the bar.

Professor T. J. Burrell, of the class of 1865, is the well-known professor of botany and zoology at the State University at Champaign, and has acquired an enviable national reputation as an educator in the department of natural science.

The present president of this institution, Professor John W. Cook, whose name comes next after that of Burrell's on the records of the class of 1865, who has no superior in this country among the teachers and leaders of the best normal thought and culture, needs no further mention here. He is assisted by several of our own graduates, and Normal's good name appears entirely safe in their custody.

We must not forget the thousands of students who attended this school for longer or shorter periods, who are with us in spirit to-night? All over this broad land, even in far western states, they are in hearty sympathy with all we say or do on this occasion. In crowded Chicago and on our magnificent prairies, these absent Normalites send warm and cordial greetings. Along the high hills of the Ohio, which line our Kentucky border; near the white and glistening limestone cliffs of the Mississippi shores in southern Illinois; by the tree covered hills of Carroll and Jo Davies; by

the clear, sparkling waters of the Fox and Rock rivers; in short, wherever in our beautiful garden state of Illinois, their homes may be found, there are our many earlier and later friends who honestly and heartily respond to our sincerest and most earnest efforts to do honor to the state's oldest Normal institution.

Their numbers include nearly twelve hundred graduates of the Normal, with other thousands in the lower classes, who have here imbibed correct ideas of Normal teaching, with an equally large number of model and training school pupils whose minds have been stimulated and improved by careful attention to the studies here pursued. And have they not one and all buried their talents in the "seed fields of time," there to bring forth appropriate fruit in due season? Have any considerable number of these thousands failed to produce the results expected? Have they not, rather, in a very large number of instances proved themselves to be teachers of a high grade of culture, leaders of educational thought of a superior order, and centers from which have poured streams of educational influence, forcing their way against the masses of ignorance still surrounding us, and whose final results will be in harmony with the highest ideals of the greatest educators of the world?

Let us hope and believe that the Normal's forty years of planting and cultivation will bring forth that grand harvest which the past and present appears to promise us is in store for the future generations of Illinois!

How the Normal was Located.

The article by Mr. C. L. Capen, published in this volume, brings the history of the Normal from the time of its twenty-fifth anniversary in 1882, down to the present.

It has been thought desirable to furnish in this connection, information relating to the location of the school in 1857, and we therefore, by permission of Mr. J. H. Burnham, author and publisher of the History of Bloomington and Normal, issued in 1879, publish the following extract from his account of how Bloomington and McLean county secured the location of this important educational institution:

The act of the Legislature provided for a university, although what was established is in fact a normal school. The intention was to gather around the new institution the different colleges—classical, agricultural, industrial, law, medical, and the other departments of a university—until in the end the state should have here a grand university equal to any in the land. The full design has not been carried out, but there are many who still have hopes that the future may yet see its realization.

The law provided a Board of Education of the state of Illinois, with power to carry into effect its purposes. This Board consisted of N. W. Edwards, of Springfield; W. H. Wells, of Chicago; John R. Eden, Moultrie county; A. R. Shannon, White county; Simeon Wright, Lee county; W. Sloan, Pope county; George Bunsen, St. Clair county; George P. Rex, Pike county; Charles E. Hovey, Peoria; Daniel Wilkins, Bloomington; C. B. Denio, Galena; F. Mosely, Chicago; S. W. Moulton, Shelby county, and J. Gillespie, Madison county. This board had full power, and it was made their duty, "to fix the permanent location of said Normal University at the place where the most favorable inducements are offered for that purpose, provided that such location shall not be difficult of access, or detrimental to the welfare and prosperity of said Normal University."

This body of gentlemen soon organized, and it appointed a committee to receive proposals for the location of the Normal University, which committee published notices in several newspapers, stating that the board would, on a certain specified day, open at Peoria all bids that might be made.

Several cities and towns entered into competition for what was understood to be a valuable prize. That the value of the new institution was thoroughly appreciated by the inhabitants of Bloomington is shown by the following extract from the Bloomington Pantagraph of April 8, 1857, then edited by E. J. Lewis:

"The advantages to be conferred by such an institution upon the place of its location are too obvious to need enlarging upon. Richly endowed from a Government fund, collecting within its walls every year the flower of the youth of every part of the state, and organized with a full corps of the ablest instructors, the Normal University will doubtless take rank among the noblest institutions of learning in the country, and give to the town which contains it a degree of prominence at home and abroad scarcely second to that enjoyed by the state capital itself.

In the light of subsequent events, how prophetic is this statement!

Mr. Fell and his co-workers did not rely on appeals made through the public press. On the contrary, they were willing that the competing points should labor under the impression that Bloomington was not thoroughly aroused. These gentlemen labored incessantly with individuals; argued, pictured, pleaded, taught, both by precept and example. They set the fashion by giving liberal subscriptions, and so far succeeded that they brought the amount of donations in land and money up to $50,000 from private individuals. They had previously obtained a pledge from the members of the County Commissioners' Court, A. J. Merriman, of Bloomington, Milton Smith, of Pleasant Hill, and H. Buck, of Leroy, who formed the county court at that time, that they would appropriate from the proceeds of the swamp-lands funds an amount equal to that subscribed by individuals. This made the total offer $100,000, and it was thought amply sufficient to secure the location.

In order to be fully aware of what Peoria—the principal competitor—was doing, *one of the most active of our party went to

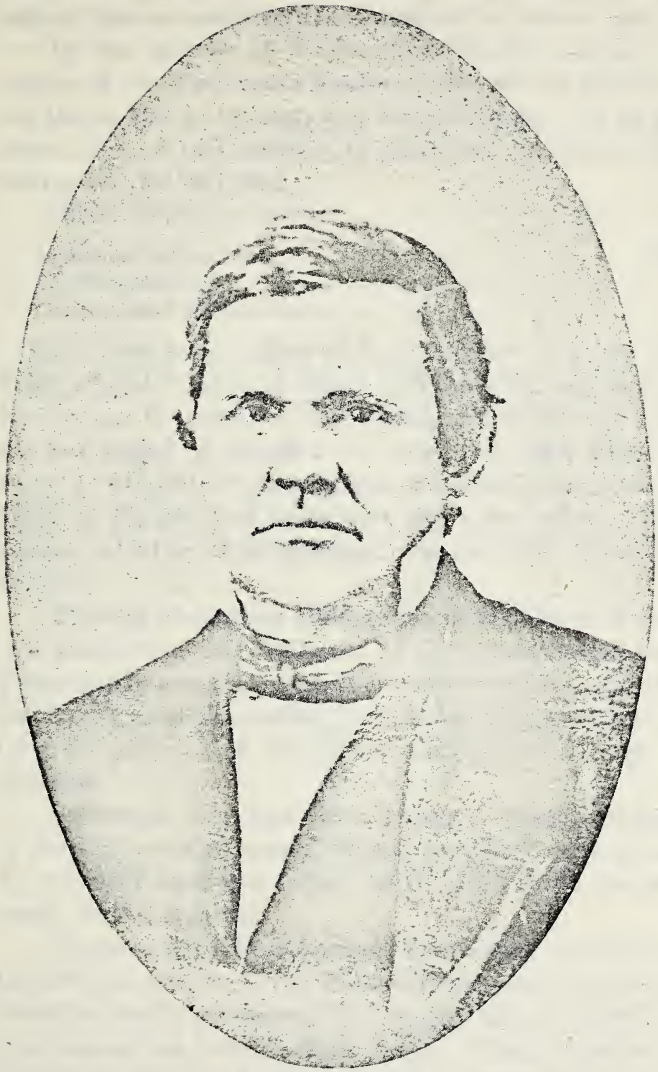
that city, quietly and rather in disguise, dropped into a back seat of a meeting of the county board held in aid of the project, mixed with the crowd in the streets, and in various ways learned almost exactly what Peoria was preparing to offer. Its liberality alarmed him; he returned to Bloomington and aroused his friends to still further efforts. Mr. Fell and other gentlemen increased their subscriptions until they reached $20,000, or $70,000 in all. The county court was speedily called together again, the county's part increased by $20,000, and when the final effort was completed, at about the last day, in the afternoon, the total offer amounted to $141,000, made up of $70,000 from the first proceeds of the sales of McLean county's swamp-land, and $71,000 in money, lands and town lots from individuals.

But the gross amount was kept a profound secret. Mr. Fell and a very few others were aware of the total, as it was highly important that competing points should remain in ignorance until too late for them to make additional subscriptions.

On the 7th of May, 1857, the State Board of Education met at Peoria to open the bids and decide upon the location. The first offer was that of Batavia. This bid embraced $15,000 in money and the land and buildings of the Batavia Institute. There were between twenty nd twenty-two acres of land, and a building seventy by fifty feet, three stories high, the whole estimated at $30,000, making Batavia's bid, in effect, $45,000. The citizens pledged themselves to raise $25,000, in order to pay a debt of $10,000 now resting on the buildings, and to give the sum of $15,000 for the Normal University direct. There were several propositions from Bloomington, six sites being offered. The tract of 160 acres at the junction was the favorite, and the particulars of that proposition were as follows:

General subscription	$ 7,875
Local cash subscription for Junction site	25,850
Real estate: 160 acres land—60 acres at $300 per acre, $18,000; 100 acres at $200 per acre, $20,000	38,000
McLean county subscription	70,000
Total	$141,725

There were offered also, by K. H. Fell, thirty acres west of Sugar Creek; by Judge Davis, ten acres near his residence; by William



OLIVER ELLSWORTH.

F. Flagg, ten acres on the north hill above the city; by Thomas Young & Sears, forty acres northeast of town; by K. H. Fell and John Nicolls, eighty acres, two and a half miles east of the city, each of these on condition the University be located upon them.

By the citizens of Washington, Tazewell county, and the trustees of the Washington Academy were offered $12,000 in cash, and the lot 430 by 120 feet, with brick building 47 by 62 feet, three stories high, of said academy, in said town; real estate at $20,000, making the bid $21,000.

Peoria offered, in money:

Individual subscription	$25,032
City Corporation	10,000
County Board of Supervisors	15,000

There were several offers of land for sites. Phelps, Conklin & Brady offered 15 acres, of which appraisements were unsettled, the first ratings it at $18,000, the second at $30,000; the twenty-acre site was valued at $20,000; 120 acres two miles from the court house, at $18,000; 200 acres three and a half miles from the court house, at $20,000, and there were two minor offers. Taking the highest valuation of the principal site, the total bid of Peoria was $80,032.

The bid of McLean county was so far ahead of Peoria, the next competitor, that the Board of Education located the Normal University in accordance wih the conditions of the subscription, on the 160 acres of fine rolling land within three-quarters of a mile from the junction of the Illinois Central and Chicago & Alton railroads.

Great must have been the rejoicing at Bloomington on receipt of the glad news of success, after a contest of such intensity; but we, who look back over twenty years, can scarcely imagine the interest of the occasion.

The Board of Education made the location upon the condition that the full amount of the McLean county subscription of $70,000 should be legally guaranteed within sixty days, in default of which, the location was to be made at Peoria. They employed Abraham Lincoln to draw up a form of bond or guaranty to be signed by responsible citizens of Bloomington. This guaranty is a matter of such historical interest that we produce it entire, with the list of

guarantors, prefacing this with the remark that this bond was thought to be necessary on account of the danger that a future county court might reconsider the appropriation, and the further doubt whether the swamp-lands would be sold for cash soon enough to meet contracts for the building about to be erected.

GUARANTY.

WHEREAS, on the 15th day of May, 1857, the Executive Committee of the Board of Education of the State of Illinois passed a resolution in the words and figures following, to-wit:

"*Resolved*, That we require of the citizens of Bloomington a guaranty that the sum of $14,000 be paid on the 1st day of August next, and the further sum of $14,000 on the 1st day of November next, and the further sum of $14,000 on the 1st day of February next, and the further sum of 14,000 on the 1st day of May next, and the remaining sum of $14,000 on the 1st day of August, 1858, if called for by the Board, to enable them to erect the building of the Normal University, on the McLean county subscription."

Now, therefore, we, the undersigned, in consideration that the said McLean county subscription be accepted by said Board of Education, and the said Normal University be located at the place and in accordance with the conditions indicated in and by said McLean county subscription, do hereby guarantee, each, to the extent of the sum set opposite his name, and no further, the payment to said Board of Education the several sums specified in said resolution, and to be made at the times therein required. And in case of any actual default, we are to share with each other, *pro rata*, according to the several sums set opposite our names.

May 15, 1857.

K. H. Fell	$5,000	Denton Young	$3,000
Jesse W. Fell	5,000	W. W. Lusk	3,000
J. E. McClun	5,000	C. Baker	3,000
A. B. Shaffer	5,000	Joseph Payne	5,000
A. Gridley	5,000	M. Pike	1,000
George Park	5,000	S. B. Hance	5,000
J. H. Moore	3,000	C. W. Holder	2,000
A. J. Merriman	1,000	S. P. Morehouse	1,000
John Dawson	1,000	N. Dixon	1,000
William R. Chew	500	Charles Roadnight	5,000
A. W. Rogers	2,000	Franklin Price	3,000
E. R. Roe	500	William W. Orme	5,000
R. T. Stockton	500	W. W. Lusk & Company	5,000
J. C. Walker	2,000	William T. Major	5,000
J. H. Robinson	1,000	D. L. Crist	2,000
William F. Flagg	5,000	Theron Pardee	5,000
Overman & Mann	1,000	George W. Stipp	5,000
William E. Foote	1,000	W. H. Temple	3,000
D. D. Haggard	500	James Niccolls	3,000

James Bronson	$ 500	C. W. Lander	$ 500
Edward D. Benjamin	1,000	John Rouse	2,000
E. W. Bakewell	5,000	S. S. Adolph	1,000
Dr. H. Schrœder	1,000	J. C. Fleming	1,000
H. H. Painter	3,000	E. H. Rood	1,000
George Bruner	1,000	John J. Price	5,000
R. R. Landon	5,000	Joseph Ludington	1,000
R. Leach	500	O. Rugg	1,000
W. McCullough	3,000	N. B. Heafer	2,000
H. Rounds	5,000	Keays & Brother	500
H. J. Eager	5,000	S. Galagher	1,000
Z. Lawrence	2,000	Birch & Brothers	1,000
John Magoun	5,000	Elihu Rogers	2,000
Leonard Swett	3,000	E. M. Philips	1,000
James Grover	3,000	J. F. Humphreys	1,000
A. W. Moore	3,000	C. Wakefield	1,000
O. Ellsworth	1,000	W. Wyatt	5,000
L. Bunn	1,000	A. J. Warner	5,000
Z. S. Hoover	3,000	J. N. Ward	5,000
S. E. Kenyon & Son	1,000	E. Hartry	5,000
David Brier	5,000	James L. Rice	1,000
A. Johnstone	500	W. P. Withers	1,000
R. Thompson & Co	1,000	Jesse Adams	1,000
S. G. Fleming	1,000		

Their guaranty was never enforced, as it was found that some of the lands were sold for cash, others on credit and the proceeds used in the building, and it also happened there was no trouble about the county appropriation, as it was confirmed by the new court in the spring of 1858. This new court consisted of a Board of Supervisors, the county having adopted township organization at the fall election in 1857. This guaranty, however, was made in good faith, was of great value at the time, and is one of the important steps taken to secure the Normal University.

NOTE.—These facts were all obtained in 1879, from published and official authorities.

The late Jesse W. Fell was my authority for very much of this material. He related the story here given concerning the visit made to Peoria by one of Bloomington's interested citizens, but insisted that I should not, at that date, state that Mr. Fell himself was the party in question. But it is my judgment that justice to Mr. Fell's memory requires that this information be now given to the public. J. H. B.

A Sketch of the Illinois Normal University

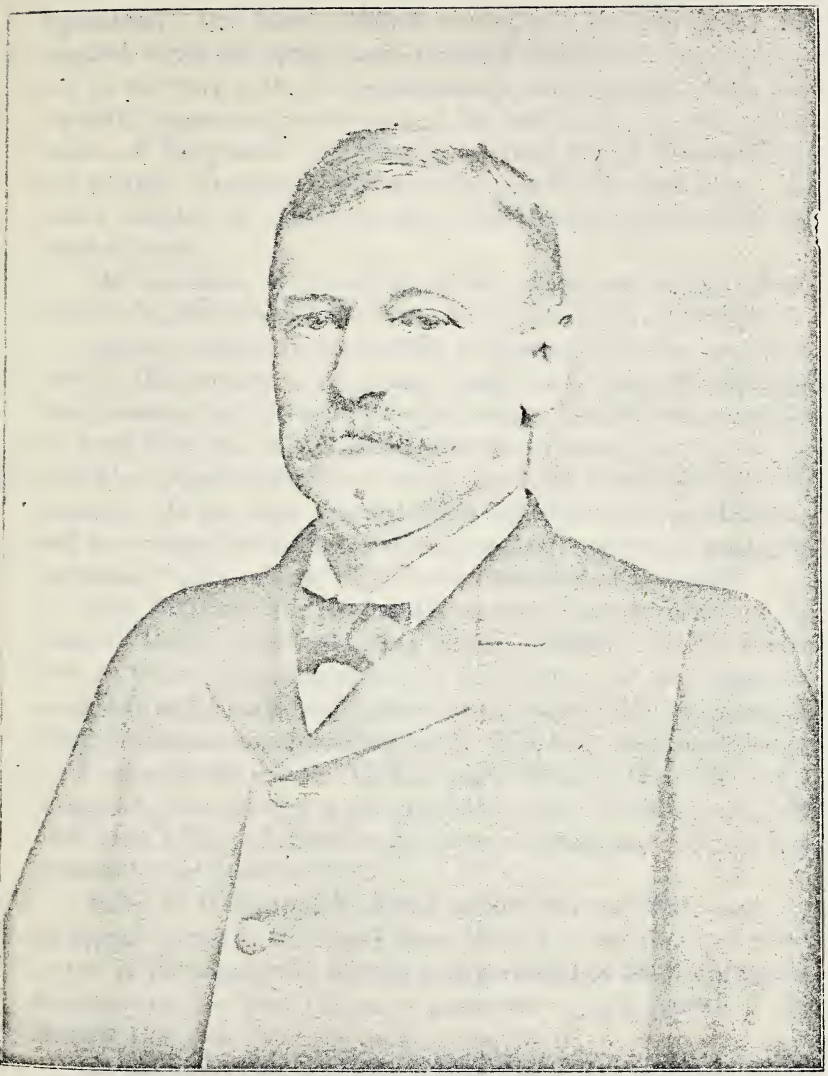
From the Quarter-Centennial Celebration, August 24, 1882.

BY CHARLES L. CAPEN.

At the quarter-centennial of the institution arrangements were made to have its history preserved to that time. In pursuance of this "The History of the Illinois State Normal University" was published by Messrs. John W. Cook and James V. McHugh, two of its most distinguished alumni, in 1882. It had many contributors who had been the chief actors from the beginning of the movement to establish a training school for teachers in the public schools of the state, and who were privileged to see the fruit of their labors in its then maturity, and to record the sacrifices made and the triumph won.

It has been thought worth the while to supplement this work with some record of the past twenty years.

1879-83, Benaiah G. Roots, of Tamaroa, was president of the Board of Education of the State of Illinois, which is simply another name for the Board of Trustees of the Normal University,—the word "University" is itself a misnomer, but was adopted for an important reason. "Father" Roots was a pioneer teacher in the southern part of the state. His record in length of service and in the warm affection of all who knew him is not excelled by that of any person in the state, living or dead. He did great service in establishing the common school system; he was one of the first, most zealous and effective men who conceived the idea and labored for its realization in creating a normal school. It should be remembered that in 1827 our legislature declared no person should be taxed for the support of any free school without his consent in writing, and it was not until about 1857, the year the university was founded, that common schools were firmly established in every part of the state. This accomplished, the way was prepared for another great advance. The free schools should



DAVID FELMLEY,
President Normal University.

have properly trained and competent teachers, without whom good schools were not to be expected. After the agitation began, it was years before a charter for a normal school was granted by the legislature. Mr. Roots worked unceasingly for this end. He traveled, wrote and spoke, made personal appeals and devoted himself to the work with all the enthusiasm of his nature. This was especially important in the part of the state where he was widely known, as the greater opposition came from Egypt, then containing a larger proportion of the entire population than now. He was a member of the board for about twenty years—until his death in 1888.

His successor, as president of the board, was George Howland, A. M., the superintendent of the public schools of Chicago.

Enoch A. Gastman, of the first graduating class, was president 1886-8. His service on the board, about thirty years in length of time, is second only to that of Judge Green. He will soon complete his forty-first year in the public schools of Decatur, nearly all the period as superintendent,—a record probably unequalled in this country. He has been honored often by educational institutions, and is a recognized authority throughout the country on questions pertaining to his calling. He is still a member of the board.

Hon. William H. Green, of Cairo, was chosen president of the board in 1888, and is still acting in that capacity. He did heroic work in the legislature in procuring the charter, and was appointed a member of the state board as one of the second list of appointees, serving continuously since that time. His long term has been of great value to the school. With a heart wholly in the work, and a wise head, he is entitled to the gratitude of all. He can justly look back upon a life well-spent in the cause of education. He was also president from 1876 to 1878.

Peleg R. Walker, of Rockford, of the class of 1861, ought to be named as one of the board since 1883, who has rendered great service to the board. He was the first president of the Wrightonian Society, and has been for many years the superintendent of the Rockford schools.

In all, since 1882, there have been thirty-four members of the board. Of these, should receive special mention George B. Harrington, of Princeton; Richard Edwards, LL. D., of Bloomington;

W. R. Sandham, of Wyoming, and Mrs. Ella F. Young, of Chicago, the last named being sometimes known as the best "man" of them all.

Not a little of the success of the institution is due to the fact the board has always adhered rigidly to three essentials: I No politics; II no sectarianism; and III no nepotism should be tolerated in any appointment or in the policy of the management.

Edwin C. Hewett, LL. D., was president of the university, 1875-90. He was in the foremost rank of normal school work, and is now spending his later years in retirement at Normal, in the enjoyment of the gratitude, esteem and affection of all. He commenced his work at the school, as a professor, in October, 1858, and is still doing good work as opportunity offers.

His successor was John W. Cook, A. M., of the class of 1865. Beginning in 1866, he was connected with the school, in various capacities, until his resignation, as president, in 1899, when he became first president of the normal school at DeKalb. In scholarship, as a teacher and executive officer in normal school work, no one in the nation stands higher than he.

Arnold Tompkins, LL. D., was president for the year 1899-1900, when he resigned to accept the presidency of the Chicago Normal School. He performed well the duties of the office, and left with the regret of all.

Upon his resignation, David Felmley, A. B., professor of mathematics, 1890-1900, was made, and now is, president. It is only necessary to say, as to him, he has met the high expectations indulged in at the time of his appointment, and is a worthy successor in a somewhat remarkable line of able men.

Of those who were professors in 1882, but one, Henry McCormick, Ph. D., of the class of 1868, now remains. He still fills the chair of geography and history. Since 1893 he has been the vice-president of the university.

Thomas Metcalf, A. M., commenced as professor in 1862, and so continued until 1894, when, upon his resignation, he was made professor *emeritus*. He died in the following year. An excellent portrait of him, presented by his brother, hangs on the wall of the president's room. He was a man of singular purity of life, precise, accurate and profound as a teacher, with the great gift of impressing his personality upon the pupils. An enviable record is his.

To this paper is subjoined a list of the other more prominent teachers since 1882.

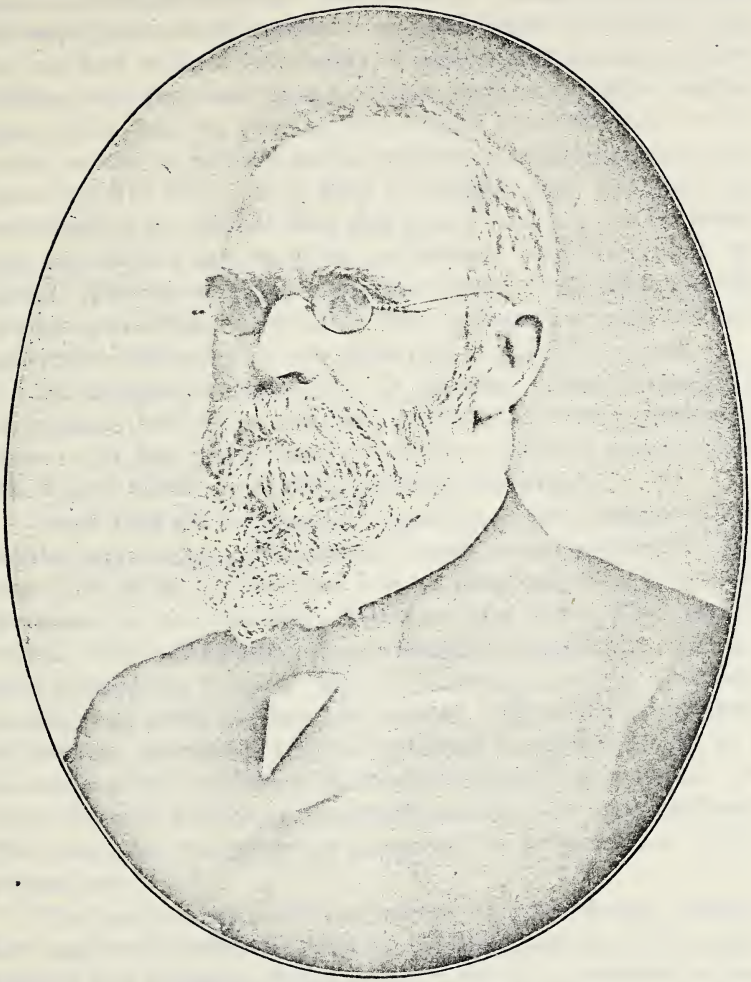
In 1891, the brick building, known as the practice school was built at a cost of $25,000. It was filled with scholars as soon as ready. On the first floor are five school-rooms, each with a capacity for forty pupils; on the second floor is a room for one hundred and fifty. Besides these are nine recitation rooms; also play-rooms, closets, etc., in the basement. This addition relieved the congestion of the main building for a time; but, further accommodations being imperative, in 1895, the legislature appropriated $40,000 for a third building. The board and its architect studied how to build a substantial structure of the size required for the money. It finally had its plans and specifications prepared and submitted them to Governor Altgeld. As soon as he glanced at them, he said so unsightly a building would be a disgrace to the state, and gave his opinion the structure should be of stone and of a plan of architecture that would please, and not offend the eye; that a public edifice should educate the taste of the citizens. Several state buildings were to be erected during his administration. He spent much time and pains in fitting himself to act intelligently as to them, with the result of decided advantage to each. Under his advice, new plans were made for the new building, so that the walls and roof would cost the $40,000. At the next session of the legislature, an additional appropriation of $16,000 was voted. The building was then completed at a cost, in all, of about $61,000. The $5,000 excess was not all paid off until last October.

This building is called the gymnasium, although only about one-third of it is used for that purpose. Besides a gymnasium of ample size, well equipped with apparatus, with bath and dressing rooms, it contains the library, museum, chemical and physical laboratories and two large recitation rooms for the professors in natural science. It is nearly fire-proof. The architecture is tudor-gothic of pleasing effect. It may not be without interest to add the stone is from the same one of the quarries as the one Mr. Vanderbilt chose for the construction of Biltmore castle in North Carolina, after most careful investigations to obtain the best in the world. Since then magnificent buildings in New York and Boston have been erected with the same kind.

The library contains about 12,000 carefully selected volumes and over 4,000 pamphlets. It is admirably equipped in every way for the use of teachers and students, and is a busy though quiet place during the hours it is open. Upon the removal of the museum, the rooms it had filled in the main building were thrown together, nicely fitted up and are now used by the Philadelphian Society; the two on the west side formerly devoted to the two societies, have been thrown together for the Wrightonian's occupancy. The new building, by removals to it, affords considerable space in the main one for necessary purposes. At present the buildings, though entirely used, are reasonably sufficient for the school. The place in the gymnasium building provided for bowling alleys is not yet equipped. It is hoped to complete these soon from the contributions of the students. Under the building is a place designed ultimately for a swimming pool,—when funds are furnished. About $7,000 were expended the past year in making needed betterments and the comfort and health of the students is better cared for than before. The heating and ventilating plant was put into the main building three or four years ago and is successful. The air in every part of the building is entirely changed in from ten to fifteen minutes.

So much for the material equipment. The more important consideration is what has the school done; what is it doing, and what the promise for the future? This can be looked at from several standpoints. A statement as to the number of students for each year since 1875 is subjoined, and also as to the number of graduates. This latter will be misleading unless it is borne in mind much the larger part of the students are those who are unable to take the entire course, but desire a knowledge of pedagogics, as far as possible, to fit them to teach in the public, and particularly the rural schools of the state. Many of them have taught before coming to the institution, and, with scarce an exception, each enters upon teaching when he leaves.

The most potent fact is that since 1882 teaching has become a distinct profession; as much so as theology, medicine or law. The day of the teacher, long delayed, has come. It is now recognized two things are requisite: *First,* the teacher should know well what he undertakes to impart; and, *second,* what is far more difficult—to know how to instruct; how best to treat a class of boys and girls,



HENRY McCORMICK, M. A., PH. D., LL. D.

Professor of History and Civics at the Illinois State Normal University.

no two alike, differing in capacity and earnestness; to watch their health and other things that cannot be done successfully without a previous scientific training. The statute of Massachusetts prohibits the employment of any teacher in a public school of that state who has not had at least four terms of pedagogical training; school trustees everywhere are more and more making a similar requirement. The result is, teaching is no longer a makeshift, to be discarded as soon as possible, but is undertaken by bright minds as a promising life work. It is hard to estimate fully the great advancement in our schools from this cause; that they are far better than two decades ago; that the methods are revolutionized is apparent. The scholar acquires now much more of the old knowledge in a given time than was possible then, and much of value not then undertaken; the pole-star is to cause him to think for himself.

In all this our university, by common consent throughout the country, has been at the front, and is everywhere considered a pioneer. It has gained and now enjoys a national reputation in this regard, thanks to its able presidents and faculty.

Since 1882 not only has the opposition to state support ceased, but the improvement of the schools in every county and nearly every school district of the state has been so manifestly due to the improvement in the teaching. We now have three other normal schools, with full faculties, fine buildings and appliances, and another to be opened this fall. Had our university not been a brilliant success, these could not have been started. These new schools have reduced our attendance from a maximum in 1897-8 of 891 to a minimum of 631 in 1900; since then the number has increased. As many, however, are now at the school as can be fully accommodated. The institution was never as prosperous or progressive as at the present time.

The qualifications and preparation of the entering students have improved steadily since 1857. Last year, of the entire enrollment of new students, 336 in number, 217 were graduates of approved high schools and three of colleges. It is believed a school cannot be found anywhere in which the average zeal and honest endeavor of the students is more noticeable or in which there is less trouble about matters of discipline, there is more need of the curb than of the spur. The number who seek post-graduate courses is

increasing. The representation is from nearly all the counties of the state, eighty sending members in 1900-1.

Prior to September, 1900, owing to the crowded condition, students from McLean county were discriminated against, to the extent of a higher standard of admission and of scholarship being demanded, and also as to the payment of tuition. This has now been removed, and all are upon the same footing.

In June, 1895, the State Board of Education (except as to the then students) abolished the high school, the test vote being seven to six. In 1901, under the arrangement entered into with the school board of the town of Normal, hereinafter referred to, the high school was entirely removed from the university buildings, and is now a part of that of the town.

As education cannot be acquired from books alone, the university had long been hampered for want of facilities for the students to learn how to teach by actual work in the school-room under competent supervision. It was felt that while theory is all important, practice is no less so. After much anxious thought and much consultation, the state board and the school board of Normal agreed upon a proposed plan of cooperation, which was submitted to the vote of the people of Normal and was carried by a large majority. The change has been satisfactory to all concerned, and promises to be permanent. It well supplies the needs of the university and gives the town schools the advantages of daily contact with normal methods and teachers. There is no reason why the public schools of Normal, good before, should not become the equals of any in the state, which is equivalent to saying in the country.

What is known as the Bakewell litigation commenced in 1878, and in one form and another continued until 1899. Mr. Edwin C. Bakewell donated in 1857 forty acres, being the north part of what is now termed the Normal farm on the west side of Main street. He afterwards demanded a re-conveyance on the ground of a breach of the alleged condition on which it was given. Frequent appeals were made by him, in his own name and that of others, to the legislatures and the courts; first, to have restored to him or his wife, the land; and, afterwards, failing in this, to wreck the institution. This caused much trouble and expense, with some embarrassment, but the outcome was to have a determination by the Supreme Court of the exact legal *status* of the university, worth

all the cost. It is now firmly established the State Board of Education holds the legal title to the property, now worth about half a million dollars, as trustees for the people of the state, so that the legislature cannot take it away; and, at the same time, it is determined to be a part of the common school system, so that it can properly be supported by public taxation. This is exactly as it should be, and is of great importance. It is now freed from the perils of partisanship and the whims of statesmen.

An institution like this is never complete or perfect; were it so, it would commence at once to decay. The Normal University looks forward with confidence to great advances in the future; those most immediately pressing are: *First,* an adequate equipment for instruction and practice in manual training; *second,* the education of a sufficient number of kindergarten teachers; *third,* some of its present departments need more instructors. One advance is particularly needful; that is, to add a full summer term, so as to make the school year one of four terms of twelve weeks each. This fourth term would be availed of to some extent by the regular students, but would be of service primarily to teachers who could thus utilize their vacations in perfecting themselves in their work. There is no doubt but that the summer term would be the largest attended of any, and the knowledge therein gained be put to immediate use. Something has been done in this direction: In 1894, a three weeks' institute was held, attended by 161 students from forty-two counties; in 1895, with 108; in 1896, with 120; in 1900, one of six weeks was held, attended by 446; in 1901, by 453, of which number ninety-one had been scholars during some part of the regular school year. The expenses of these schools were met by tuition fees, and so were not strictly a university matter. The legislature has not seen fit, thus far, to appropriate the money necessary to carry on these schools, but it is hoped this will be done in the near future.

When the above named defects are supplied, others will come to the front. We must, however, remember with gratitude the state has treated the institution liberally in the way of support. We cannot boast now, as was justly done at the time of the completion of the main building, that it was the largest and best equipped for normal school purposes of any one in the world, yet it is of pleasing architecture, admirably adapted for its purposes, and dear to all

who have entered its halls. All the buildings are thoroughly and equally warmed from a central station, have water from the public works, and are lighted by electricity. Year by year, students come to it with a better preparation, and are thus enabled to do better and better work. Above all, it has a president and faculty of men and women of ability and zeal. Its alumni are to be found in every county of the state, are intensely loyal to their *alma mater,* and their aid is invaluable. It is, in a sense, the mother of the normal schools of Illinois. Great as its work has been in the past, and is at the present, it is reasonable to expect grander results in the years to come. The relations between it on the one side, and the state, the people of Normal and of Bloomington on the other are almost ideal. May it ever conduct itself so that these pleasant relations will continue, and its work grow in the public confidence and approval.

1. The total number of students each year since 1875 is given below. This does not correspond exactly with the records, as where the same student attended in part the Normal and the high school, he is credited in this list to the former. The number of such is not large. The list does not include the attendance at the summer schools.

Year.	Normal Dep't.	High School.	Year.	Normal Dep't.	High School.	Year.	Normal Dep't.	High School.
1876	404	229	1885	502	304	1894	620	490
1877	436	209	1886	486	314	1895	721	553
1878	447	196	1887	579	334	1896	789	349
1879	338	209	1888	580	344	1897	826	299
1880	429	258	1889	635	395	1898	891	260
1881	467	258	1890	677	431	1899	840	269
1882	484	248	1891	652	477	1900	631	
1883	511	311	1892	688	551	1901	634	
1884	489	290	1893	646	536			

2. The graduating classes have numbered as follows: The total number of alumni is 1415.

Year.	Normal Dep't.	High School.	Year.	Normal Dep't.	High School.	Year.	Normal Dep't.	High School.
1876	18	3	1885	28	4	1894	31	25
1877	20	7	1886	27	11	1895	30	27
1878	21	7	1887	24	15	1896	59	
1879	30	9	1888	35	18	1897	39	
1880	15	7	1889	20	10	1898	45	
1881	23	2	1890	36	15	1899	85	
1882	22	1	1891	32	14	1900	68	
1883	37	10	1892	38	17	1901	62	
1884	24	2	1893	35	19			

TRAINING SCHOOL NORMAL UNIVERSITY.

GYMNASIUM BUILDING NORMAL UNIVERSITY.

3. The faculty is now composed of the president and twenty-eight professors, assistant professors and teachers. Besides these there have been, and are, many others who have taught in various capacities. Changes have been made in a few cases in the titles and rank held by the same chair, but the list is substantially accurate. The list is only from 1882, but of those then serving, the dates of their entry into the position are given.

Presidents: Edwin C. Hewett, LL.D., 1875-90; John W. Cook, A.M., 1890-99: Arnold Tompkins, Ph.D., 1890-1900; David Felmley, A.B. 1900.

Vice-President: Henry McCormick, Ph.D., 1893.

Principal Training Teachers: Thomas Metcalf, A.M., 1874-94; Emeritus, 1894-5; Frank McMurry, Ph.D., 1890-2; Charles A. McMurry, Ph.D., 1892-9; John J. Wilkinson, Ph.D., 1900-1.

Professors of Mathematics: John W. Cook. A.M., 1877-90; David Felmley, A.B., 1890-1900; Charles Ammerman, 1900-1: George H. Howe, 1901.

Professors of English Language and Literature; Albert Stetson, A.M., 1862-87; Richard D. Jones, A.M., 1887-90; Miss J. Rose Colby, Ph.D., 1891.

Professor of Geography: Henry McCormick, Ph.D., 1869-75.
Professor of Geography and History: Henry McCormick, Ph.D., 1875.

Professors of Natural Science: Minor L. Seymour, 1878-88; Buel P. Colton, A.M., 1888.

Professor of Psychology: Manfred J. Holmes, B.L., 1897.

Professors of Science and Art of Instruction: William W. Black, 1900-1; Miss Elizabeth Mavity, 1901.

Professors of Reading and Didactics: Rudolph R. Reeder, 1890-3; C. C. Van Liew, 1893-6; Louis H. Galbreath, B.L., 1896-7.

Director Scientific Laboratory: Stephen A. Forbes, 1872-84.

Preceptresses: Miss Flora Pennell, 1887-90; Miss Ruth Morris, 1890-1; Miss J. Rose Colby, Ph.D., 1891.

Librarian: Miss Ange V. Milner, 1891.

Assistant Professors of Mathematics: Miss Mary Hartmann, 1885; Charles Whitten, 1900.

Principals High School: J. H. D. Cornelius, 1882-3; Herbert J. Barton, 1883-90; O. L. Manchester, 1890-5.

Teachers of Grammar: Mrs. Martha L. D. Haynie, 1878-86; Charles DeGarmo, Ph.D., 1886-91; Miss Ruth Morris, 1890-1; Miss Adella M. O. Hanna, A.M., 1890-5; Miss Kate Mavity, 1895-6; Miss Elizabeth Mavity, 1896-1901; Miss Chestine Gowdy, 1901.

Teachers of Ancient Languages: Miss Mary R. Potter, 1895-6: 1897 1900; J. Irving Read, A.M., 1896-7; Miss Irene Blanchard, B.A., 1900.

Teachers of Geography and History: Miss Lizzie P. Swan, 1886-92; Miss Eva Wilkins, 1892.

Teacher of Geography: Miss Mary Judson Averett, 1901.

Teachers of Natural Science: Dudley G. Hayes, 1890-1; Arthur O. Norton, 1891-5; Joseph G. Brown, 1895-9; Frederick D. Barber, 1898.

Assistants in High School: Miss Alice C. McCormick, 1883-6; Miss Fannie C. Fell, 1886-7: 1890-2; Miss Ida M. Hollis, 1887-9, Miss Adella M. O. Hanna, A.M., 1889-90; Edward Manley, A.B., 1889-91; Jacob A. Bohrer, A.B., 1891-6; Miss Mary R. Potter, A.B, 1893-6.

Teachers of Drawing: Miss Rosalie Miller, 1874-83; Miss S. Annette Bowman, 1883-8; Miss Clarissa E. Ela, 1888.

Teachers of Reading: B. C. Edwards, 1898-9; Miss Amelia F. Lucas, 1892.

Teachers of Music: Mrs. Ida Gove, 1899-1900; F. W. Westhoff, 1901.

Teachers of Gymnastics: Miss Lucia W. Raines, 1891-2; Miss Amelia F. Lucas, 1892-1901; B. C. Edwards, 1898.

Teachers of Penmanship: Elmer W. Cavins, 1895-6; 1898.

Treasurers of State Board of Education: Hon. Thomas F. Mitchell, 1877-88; Frank D. Marquis, 1888.

January, 1902. CHARLES L. CAPEN.

Illinois Soldiers' Orphans' Home.

BY HARVEY C. DE MOTTE.

In the early days of the war of the rebellion, loyal men and women in various parts of the union began to consider plans whereby the children of deceased or disabled soldiers, who had volunteered their services in defense of the flag, might receive proper care and instruction in well regulated state homes. In no state in the union was the sentiment in favor of such movement stronger than in Illinois. Formal action was taken in this direction by the people of McLean county at a meeting held in the court house January 19, 1864. At that meeting a motion was made by the late General John McNulta, then colonel of the Ninety-fourth Illinois Volunteers, calling for the appointment of a committee to memorialize the legislature in regard to preparing a home for soldiers' orphans. The motion was seconded by Colonel E. R. Roe of the Third-third Illinois Volunteers and was carried by a unanimous vote.

LEGISLATIVE ACT OF 1865.

The formal action thus taken by McLean county citizens was heartily endorsed by the loyal people of the state, and resulted in the passage of an act by the legislature February 7, 1865, without a dissenting vote. This act was entitled "An act to establish a home for children of deceased soldiers" and was to be in force from and after its passage.

It provided for the appointment by the governor of nine trustees "who shall be and are hereby declared to be a body politic and corporate by and under the name and style of the Trustees of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home."

This board was empowered to organize "by the election of a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer from among their number. They were also authorized to purchase and hold, or receive by donation, gift or grant and to hold all such tracts or par-

cels of land, not exceeding 1,000 acres, as may be necessary for the uses, purposes and objects of said incorporation, and to the establishment and maintenance of an orphans' home, and to erect, construct and build all such structures, buildings, houses, edifices and tenements thereon as they may deem best for the purposes aforesaid, and from time to time to enlarge, repair and add to the same."

This act further provided that "the governor shall appoint five persons as a commission to locate said home, who are in no way connected with said corporation." This commission was to locate the home "whenever they shall be requested by the aforesaid trustees to do so."

The object of the incorporation was declared to be "to provide a home for the nurture and education, without charge, of all indigent children of soldiers who have served in the armies of the union during the present rebellion, and have been disabled from disease or wounds therein, or have since died or been killed in said service."

It will be seen from the above quotation that the conditions for admission were exceedingly broad and liberal from the beginning, not being limited to actual orphans, but including also the indigent children of disabled soldiers, and no age limit for admission or discharge was fixed.

By the terms of this act, gifts and donations were authorized; and as the act carried with it no appropriation by which it could at once be made operative, various counties in the state took formal action appropriating various sums to aid in the construction of the proposed "Soldiers' Orphans' Home."

AMENDMENTS OF 1867.

Sufficient funds, however, were not secured to warrant the governor to take formal action in appointing trustees and a commission to locate the home; and in 1867 the legislature amended the act creating the incorporation of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home. In this amendment it was ordered "that the sum of $34,000, being a fund commonly called the deserter's fund, and now remaining in the state treasury unappropriated, be and the same is hereby appropriated for the use and benefit of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home.

MRS. MARY A. MERCHANT.

A further appropriation of $70,000 out of any money in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, was made "for the purpose of buying suitable grounds and erecting suitable buildings for the support and maintenance of orphans of soldiers, in case no grounds and buildings shall be donated for that purpose; or if so donated, to fit such grounds and buildings for the proper reception, maintenance and education of such orphans; and also for the purpose of employing superintendents, nurses, matrons, and other necessary officers, and for boarding, clothing and educating said orphans."

It was provided in these amendments "that there shall be first received into the institution children under the age of five years who are in indigent circumstances; and then if the means and endowments of the institution justify it, indigent orphans above that age but below the age of ten years shall be received; and then if there are sufficient means all other indigent orphans; but none who are over the age of fourteen, of which age all pupils of said institution shall be discharged therefrom."

These amendments further provided that the commission to locate the institution "shall be at once appointed by the governor, and that the several counties which, under the act, to which this is an amendment, have made orders for voluntary donations are hereby released from such orders or subscriptions," assigning as a reason for this release, "in order to equalize amongst the whole people of the state the burden of providing for the orphans of our soldiers." This amendatory act was approved March 5, 1867, and was in force from and after its passage.

AMENDMENTS OF 1869.

At the session of the legislature in 1869 the act creating the incorporation was further amended. Among the enlarged powers thus given to the trustees was the authority to fix salaries of all employees and "to remove any officer or employee if the interests of the institution required such removal." The board of trustees was also declared to be the legal guardian of all the children who are now, or may become hereafter, inmates of the said home in all cases where such children have not a legal guardian."

These amendments further provided that "after the expiration of the time for which children are allowed to remain in the home,

the trustees may bind out any discharged child under the laws of the state for such term and purposes as said trustees shall deem proper, and for the interest of each child respectively; provided, that in case such child shall have a parent living, the consent of such parent shall first be obtained."

Provision was also made that "in special cases of peculiar inability of a pupil to support himself or herself, the said board of trustees, or its executive committee, may retain such pupil, although above the age of fourteen years, and until the age of sixteen years." The trustees were also given authority to discharge at any time any child for persistent violation of the rules of the home, or when in their judgment it was for the best interest and good government of the home.

At this time there was also appropriated $25,000 for the completion of the buildings, $6,500 for heating and ventilation, $3,000 for stables, outbuildings, walks, grading and sewers, $10,000 for furnishing the various departments, and $45,000 per annum for current expenses for two years. This act was approved March 1, 1869, and was in force from and after its passage.

LEGISLATION IN 1875.

In an act of the legislature approved April 15, 1875, entitled "An act to regulate the state charitable institutions and the state reform school," the name of this institution is entered as the "Illinois Soldiers' Orphans' Home." This act provides for the appointment, by the governor, of three trustees to serve two, four and six years respectively, and whose successors are to serve six years, or until their successors are appointed and qualified. It fixed the age limit of admission at fourteen years for all "indigent children" of soldiers of the late war. It also defines at length the powers of the governor in appointments and removals of trustees, and the duties and responsibilities of trustees and superintendents of the various institutions affected by the act.

AMENDMENTS OF 1897.

In this amendment the object of the home is set forth in substantially the same terms used in the original act of 1865. It, however, fixed the age limit for admission of children "in indigent circumstances" at ten years and that of "indigent orphans" at six-

teen years, thus returning to the conditions named in the act of 1867 as to orphanage; and it extended the age of dismissal from fourteen to sixteen years. It also provided that in cases of "peculiar inability of a pupil to support himself or herself, the trustees may retain such pupil until he has reached the age of eighteen years."

AMENDMENT OF 1899.

On April 3, 1899, an amendment was approved which set forth the object of the institution in the following language:

"The object of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home shall be to provide for the nurture and intellectual, moral and physical culture of all indigent children whose fathers served in the army or navy of the United States and have since died, or been disabled by reason of wounds or disease received therein; or have since become disabled or died; that there shall be received into said institution, first, children who are under five years of age who are in indigent circumstances; and then if the means appropriated by the state will justify it, indigent children above that age and below the age of ten years shall be received; and then if the means provided will justify, all other indigent orphans of such soldiers may be received, but none over the age of sixteen years shall be received; at which age all children shall be discharged therefrom, except girls who may be retained until they are eighteen years old."

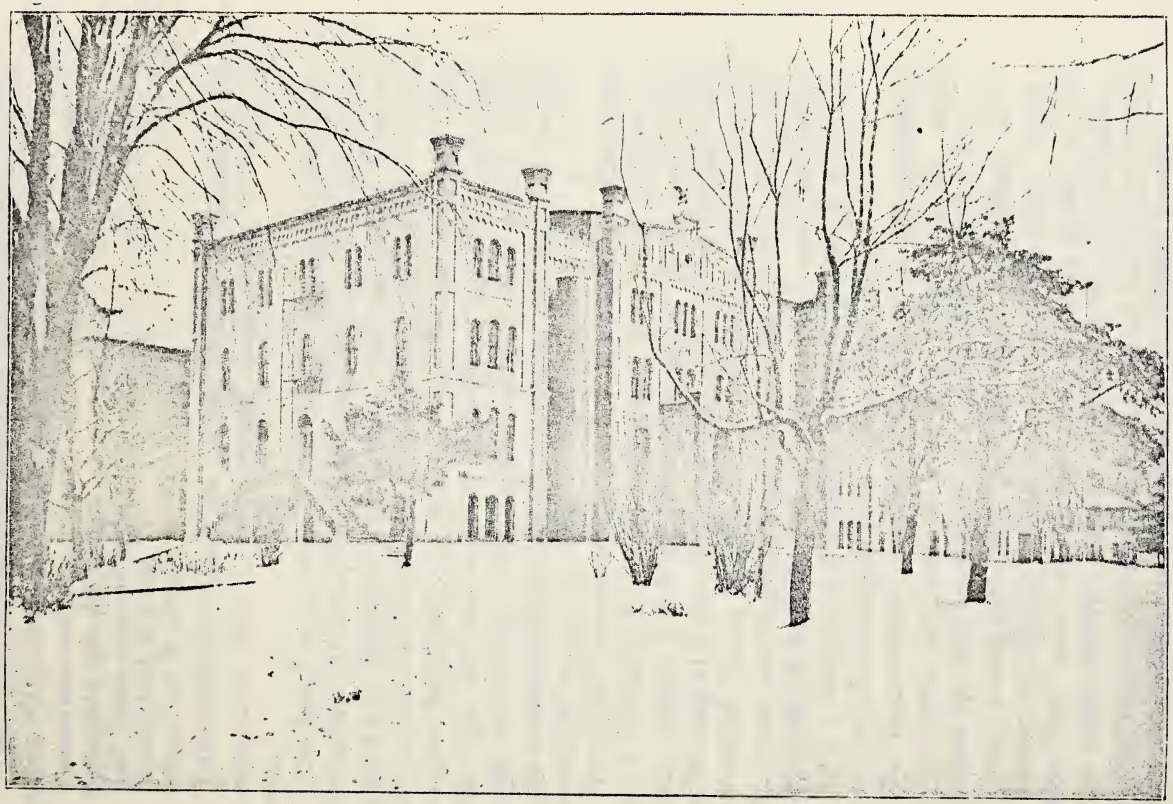
This amendment also provides for the discharge of any child at the discretion of the trustees; and for placing children in permanent homes by the trustees, with the consent of the parent if living and to be found; and it empowers the trustees to make such rules with reference to placing children in homes as in their judgment may be deemed prudent. It also permits the trustees to retain children in the home until they reach the age of eighteen, in case of peculiar inability to support themselves.

It will be observed that this last amendment fixes the age limit for admission for "indigent children" at ten years, and for indigent orphans at sixteen years; and fixes the age limit of discharge for boys at sixteen, except in special cases, and for girls at eighteen years. It also opens the home to all "indigent children" within prescribed limits as to age, of all soldiers of the army or navy of the United States, thus removing the "war of the rebellion" restriction which all former acts contained.

LOCATION AND BUILDINGS.

Under the act of the legislature of 1867, the governor appointed a commission to locate the home, consisting of Dr. H. C. John of Decatur, Colonel W. Wiles of Bellville, Major J. M. Beardsley of Rock Island, Colonel J. H. Raymond of Geneva, and Colonel T. A. Marshall of Charleston. This led to a lively competition among aspiring places to secure the location of the home. For this purpose under the leadership of Jesse W. Fell, the citizens of Normal organized in April, 1867. Pledges in money and land were secured amounting at a fair estimate to $50,220. Herewith is given a list of donors, taken from records furnished by Captain J. H. Burnham in his History of Bloomington and Normal:

David Davis, 80 acres	$12,000
Jesse W. Fell, 2000 acres	10,000
K. H. Fell, 160 acres	2,000
W. H. Mann, land	1,000
H. P. Taylor, 20 acres	2,400
W. A. Pennell	1,000
J. S. Walker, land	375
N. Dixon, land	1,000
F. K. Phoenix, 20 acres	2,500
O. M. Coleman	250
L. A. Hovey	500
L. Dillon, 5 acres	400
W. H. Allin	1,000
John Worden	200
Jackson Hukill	200
C. G. McClure	1,600
D. R. Gaston	400
W. G. Parr	200
S. A. Overman	300
M. D. Seward	200
James Kelley	100
Thomas S. Underhill	150
B. Smith	120
C. D. James	300
Joshua Brown	150
Thomas Bates	100
G. Diedrich	1,000
Thomas Fell	100
W. W. Bright	125
S. J. Reeder	50
J. E. McClun	500
C. & A. Railroad in freight	10,000



SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOME.

When the commission to locate the home met, the following locations with corresponding pledges were considered:

Normal, cash and land	$50,220
Springfield, cash and land	60,000
Rock Island, cash and land	15,000
Decatur, land, 22 acres.	
Irving, land, 40 acres.	

After duly considering the various locations and pledges, the commission on May 3, 1867, decided unanimously in favor of Normal.

The board of trustees at the earliest practicable date proceeded to erect an imposing building, and on June 17, 1869, it was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. The cost of this structure is entered upon the records of the institution at $125,000. It is a substantial brick building, 140 feet long, 80 feet wide and four stories high, and was originally intended to furnish living, play, sleeping and dining rooms together with all other needed rooms for the accommodation of both the children and those who might be appointed to care for them.

The rapid increase in the number of children admitted soon made it necessary to provide additional room, and in 1872, a kitchen, laundry and boiler house was erected in the rear of the main building at a cost of about $6,000, a new steam heating plant was installed costing $12,000, and a commodious school building of six rooms was erected a short distance east of the main building at a cost of $15,000. These improvements were followed in 1881 by the erection of a hospital building between the main edifice and the school building at an expense of $5,000.

The improvements remained substantially in this condition, with the usual per cent of wear and waste deducted, until 1889, when the legislature made an appropriation of $66,618 for a new chapel, dining halls, play and bath rooms, boiler house, laundry, kitchen and bakery and an entire new heating plant. These additions were made without delay, and add very greatly to the comfort of the children, and the efficiency of the administration. Soon after there was erected a primary school building in which kindergarten methods were introduced with marked success.

In 1891 an electric light plant was also installed at a cost of $4,000, thus adding greatly to the comfort and convenience as well as the safety of the home.

In 1895 an industrial building was erected near the school building, in which it was proposed to instruct the older children, especially the boys, in some of the mechanical industries, in order to aid them in caring for themselves after leaving the home; and in 1899 a new and commodious hospital building was erected west of the main building at a cost of $10,000, and the former hospital building was transformed into an industrial school for girls.

TEMPORARY HOMES.

As soon as a location had been chosen and steps had been taken to erect buildings for the Soldiers' Orphans' Home, the applications for admission of children became very numerous and so urgent that some time before the first building was ready for use, the trustees decided to open a temporary home. Accordingly a house located on Main street, west of the Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, was secured and on August 5, 1867, the home was opened with Mrs. Ira Merchant as superintendent. The enterprise was a success from the beginning, and this temporary home was soon full to overflowing. More room became a necessity, and in November, 1867, a second temporary home was opened in the Prairie City House, corner of Prairie and North (now Monroe) streets with Mr. and Mrs. B. V. Sharp in charge. The demand for room still increasing, in February, 1868, a third temporary home was opened in Springfield with Mrs. Virginia C. Ohr as superintendent.

MRS. VIRGINIA C. OHR'S ADMINISTRATION.

The children from these three homes, numbering about ninety in the two homes in Bloomington and approximately the same number in the Springfield home, were transferred to their new home at Normal June 1, 1869, and were placed under the care and management of Mrs. Virginia C. Ohr as superintendent.

Mrs. Ohr remained in charge of the home until the spring of 1887, having served in that capacity for nearly twenty years. Her administration was noted for its efficiency and freedom from occasion of criticism. A woman of superior natural endowments, rendered still more effective by that culture which comes from education coupled with practical experience, she exercised the functions of her office with rare ability and won enviable success

as the guardian of the wards of the state. To her is the home largely indebted for its wholesome methods and its humane and helpful regulations which did so much to mould and fashion the character of its inmates during the first twenty years of its existence. She bears with her, in her retirement from the active and exacting services which she so long rendered, the high regard and love of hundreds of children who came under her inspiring and helpful influence, and whatever success they may have attained, or may yet attain, in life is to be attributed largely to the correct bias which she was able to give them in their childhood.

ADMINISTRATION OF DR. H. C. DE MOTTE.

Upon the retirement of Superintendent Ohr, Captain Edwin Harlan, one of the trustees was temporarily placed in charge of the home as custodian, and shortly thereafter the trustees elected H. C. DeMotte, Ph. D., then president of Chaddock College, Quincy, Ill., to the position of superintendent of the home, and his wife, Mrs. Sarah J. DeMotte, then professor of English language and literature in the same college, to the position of matron of the home.

As Dr. and Mrs. DeMotte could not leave their work at Chaddock College before the close of the school year in June, Captain Harlan continued in temporary control of the home until June 13, 1887, at which date the newly elected superintendent and matron entered upon the duties of their respective positions. Both were trained educators and were known to be successful in the management of children. The work, so well begun and so successfully pursued by Superintendent Ohr, was carried forward without any lagging of interest by the new administration.

In the six years of Superintendent DeMotte's service the entire plant was reconstructed and material improvements were made by the addition of a number of new buildings, much to the comfort, well being and happiness of the inmates and those in charge. During this administration there was secured for the home, partly by purchase and partly by exchange, thirty acres of land adjoining the home grounds. With this addition the institution now owns a rectangular farm of about ninety-six acres, surrounded by a public highway.

Plans in the domestic life of the home were thoroughly revised and the work in the various departments was so organized and

unified as to make the institution, as far as possible, in fact as well as in name, a home for the children. The school which for many years had been an important factor in the home, and which had attained to some degree of efficiency in grade work, was reorganized by Superintendent DeMotte, who also served as principal of the school. A course of study consisting of eight grades parallel with the grades in the common school work of our state was prescribed; and at the close of this administration the grade work in the home school was fully up to that of the schools in the county.

Under the supervision of the matron and her assistants the older girls received special instruction in the use of the needle in plain sewing and fancy work; while the older boys, under the direction of the superintendent and his assistants, gained a practical knowledge of various kinds of farm and garden work. Special attention was also given to the social and moral culture of the children, and the returns in these directions were very gratifying.

ADMINISTRATION OF C. E. BASSETT.

The political landslide of 1892 placed Illinois in the democratic column, and John P. Altgeld in the governor's chair. The state charitable institutions, which had hitherto been considered as not coming within the range of politics, were at once entered in the spoils column. The Illinois Soldiers' Orphans' Home was among that number, and early in the Altgeld administration a new board of trustees was appointed having a safe democratic majority.

While the new board expressed perfect satisfaction with the administration of Superintendent DeMotte, and a desire that he should be retained, under pressure from the governor they reluctantly took action; and Captain Charles E. Bassett, of Austin, was elected superintendent, resigning his position as a trustee to make himself eligible.

Superintendent Bassett assumed charge of the home August 14, 1893, and his wife, Mrs. Kate E. Bassett, was assigned to the position of matron. During his administration, little material change was made in the home, the methods inaugurated by his predecessor were in a measure pursued, and the tenor of congregate institutional life was rarely interrupted. One new building was erected for the purpose of introducing industrial education in a more formal and effective manner in the home. This work was at-

tempted without any special appropriation for that purpose, and the enterprise was greatly handicapped by reason of insufficient funds.

LATER ADMINISTRATIONS.

The political decision of 1892 was reversed in 1896, and the precedent set by a democratic governor was vigorously followed by the new state administration. Upon the inauguration of a republican governor, changes were made in the board of trustees of the home to give it the political complexion of the new order of things. Superintendent Bassett was duly succeeded by J. L. Magner of Paris, Ill., and his wife, Mrs. J. L. Magner, relieved Mrs. Bassett of the duties of matron.

The administration of Superintendent Magner was brief and unsatisfactory, and brief because it was unsatisfactory. Complaints of inefficiency having become loud and vigorous in the public ear, an investigation committee from the legislature visited the home, and as the result of their work two new trustees were appointed. This action was followed by the election of Colonel Isaac L. Clements, of Carbondale, as superintendent of the home and his wife, Mrs. Josephine V. Clements, as matron. It is but just to state, however, that during the brief administration of Superintendent Magner some wholesome and much needed improvements were made in the dormitories and bath rooms of the institution.

Superintendent Clements' administration was also brief, but not because it was unsatisfactory. In many respects he had qualities which fitted him for the position; and while in charge of the home he was highly respected and deservedly popular. However, having received the appointment as governor of the National Soldiers' Home at Danville, Ill., he resigned his position at the Soldiers' Orphans' Home, and Major Richard N. McCauley, of Olney, was elected to succeed him, and Mrs. R. N. McCauley was assigned the position of matron.

Thus far the administration of Superintendent McCauley has given general satisfaction, and Mrs. McCauley has proved to be admirably adapted to the work of matron. Under the present administration the new hospital building has been erected and many greatly needed repairs and improvements have been made. A more thorough and satisfactory system of sewerage has been planned and a circular fire escape has been erected. The industrial work has

been greatly enlarged and is now much more effective, while the school still maintains its high rank in both extent and thoroughness of the work performed. Altogether the home has the aspect of thrift, prosperity and contentment.

TRUSTEES.

Herewith is presented, so far as the official records show, a list of those who have served as trustees of the institution, with their approximate term of service—honorable gentlemen all—and some of whom well deserve special mention because of their many years of sacrifice and unselfish devotion to the interests of the home. But they have their reward in the abundant success which has crowned their efforts, and the manifold blessings which have come thereby to the thousands of needy and worthy children dependent upon the bounty of the state.

NAME.	ADDRESS.	TERM OF SERVICE.
Major James M. Beardsley	Rock Island	1869–76
Col. E. R. Roe.	Bloomington	1869–71
Col. John M. Snyder	Springfield	1869–71
Hon. D. D. Evans	Danville	1871–72
Dr. John Sweeney	Normal	1871–74
Capt. George W. Holloway	Georgetown	1873–76
Gen. John McNulta	Bloomington	1875–76
Gen. John I. Rinaker	Carlinville	1877–84
Gen. John C. Black	Danville	1877–74
Hon. Duncan M. Funk	Bloomington	1877–78
Gen. Ira J. Bloomfield	Bloomington	1879–80
Hon. Duncan M. Funk	Bloomington	1881–93
Col. James E. Morrow	Pontiac	1886–93
Capt. Edwin Harlan	Marshall	1886–96
Hon. B. J. Claggett	Lexington	1893–96
Edwin M. Johnson	Pontiac	1893–96
Rev. J. B. Wolfe	Bloomington	1897–98
William R. Page	Chicago	1897–92
Hon. William G. Cochran	Sullivan	1897–..
Hon. Benson Wood	Effingham	1897–..
Capt. N. B. Thistlewood	Cairo	1902–..

CONDITIONS OF ADMISSION.

The form of application for admission to the home, prescribed by the trustees, gives ample protection against fraud or imposition. It requires the date of the birth of the child; its residence at the

time the application is made; the date, company, and regiment of the enlistment of the father; the condition of the father, whether dead or disabled, and the character of the disability; the condition of the mother, whether dead or living, and if widowed, whether or not remarried, and the indigent condition of the child. It further requires a sworn statement as to the above facts before some person legally authorized to administer the oath, and a certificate as to the creditability of the party making the affidavit.

NUMBER ENROLLED.

Complete records of the transactions in the temporary homes opened in 1867 and 1868 have not been preserved, and hence the total number of children enrolled from the beginning in 1867 to the present time cannot be accurately given. Since June 1, 1869, the date of the opening of the permanent home, up to July 1, 1900, a period of over thirty-one years, 3,536 children have been admitted to the institution. This gives an average of about 114 admissions per annum and fixes the average term of institutional life for each child at about four years. Many who are admitted do not remain until they attain the legal age for dismissal. Numerous cases occur in which children are admitted and cared for until the parent, by pension or some good fortune, is in condition to provide for them.

The average attendance in 1875 was 297; in 1880 it was 308; in 1885 it was 328; in 1890 it was 313; in 1895 it was 419, and in 1900 it was 380. These averages for every fifth year will give a fair estimate of the average yearly attendance. The reduction in the average attendance in 1890 was occasioned by a request of the trustees that children out for summer vacation should not return until January, 1891, when the new buildings were to be ready for use.

CLOSING REMARKS.

Institutional life is not the ideal life for the child. It cannot be made even under the most favorable conditions, the equal of a well-ordered home. At the same time, the Illinois Soldiers' Orphans' Home is one of the most efficient and humane agencies in our state. No one can estimate the good that it has accomplished during its thirty-three years of existence. True, it has cost the people of Illinois something—an average of over $100,000 per an-

num for the entire period of thirty-three years, but the investment has been one of the best and most productive that the state has made.

Life at the home is far from being one of monotony and dull routine, void of anything to awaken into active energy the dormant powers of the child. Rather it is a life crowded full of the most helpful agencies for calling into active exercise all the powers of both body and mind, and directing these toward the accomplishment of the very best results.

It is gratifying to know that these agencies have not been used in vain. The success which has attended those who have had this home training gives unmistakable proof of its efficiency. Few indeed are the instances in which those who have shared these benefits have failed to strive after the high ideals of manhood and womanhood which have been placed before them while in the home. The investment which the state of Illinois has made, in establishing and maintaining this home for the children of those who answered the call of their country in its hour of peril, is of inestimable value to our commonwealth and to humanity. Illinois has well redeemed the pledge made to her citizen soldiers who rallied to the rescue in the hour of danger to the republic.

Miscellaneous Educational Statistics.

BY J. H. BURNHAM.

The office of state superintendent of public instruction was not legally recognized as a separate office till 1854, but previous to this date the secretary of state was called state school superintendent, ex-officio.

In 1846, we find the governor transmitted to the senate a report from Thompson Campbell, secretary of state, who called himself "state superintendent of schools." This is the earliest state school report of which we can find any record, and in it the following facts appear as relating to McLean county:

Number of school-houses	12
Number of teachers	14
Number of schools	13
Number of male teachers	7
Number of female teachers	7
Number of school libraries	0
Average number of weeks taught	18
Total amount of county school funds to be loaned	$4,930

The report shows the various county or township officials making reports to the secretary of state were very careless in filling out their returns, and this report is of little real value, but is perhaps worth publishing.

None of the townships are reported by name, as township organization was not adopted until twelve years later, in 1858. Even if the names of the voting precincts, as then organized were given, we should still find the names misleading because these precincts were usually made up of the settlers living in the different groves or bodies of timber and did not usually follow the township lines as now arranged.

But by taking the present names of the townships mentioned by their legal numbers in that report, we shall find it is something better than no report at all, and by mentioning the names of the

towns unreported, we shall see these were mostly prairie townships in which there then were very few settlements.

Number of persons under twenty-one years of age:

Bloomington	840
Money Creek	291
White Oak	112
Dale	109
Danvers and Stout's Grove	178
Funk's Grove	93
Old Town	99
Arrowsmith	26
Randolph and Short Point	453
Downs	201
Lexington	198
Dawson	157
LeRoy	387
Hudson	140
Cheney's Grove	105
Dry Grove	186
Total	3585

This report is silent as to persons under 21 years of age in the present townships of Gridley, Chenoa, Yates, Lawndale, Normal, Towanda, Blue Mound, Martin, Cropsey, Anchor, Bellflower, West, Mt. Hope and Allin, but it will be found by a careful view of Peter Folsom's map, published in this volume, that very little timber land existed in these towns, and consequently in 1846, they were as yet almost wholly unsettled. Some of these towns had small groves or fringes of timber whose settlers either sent their children to school in some of the townships enumerated in the list given above or perhaps in some cases, the settled neighborhoods were so small as to be unable to maintain more than irregular subscription schools.

The report further states that of school funds loaned, the interest of which was applied to the support of schools, Bloomington had $3,440; Money Creek had $47; White Oak had $11, and Funk's Grove had $1,432; the latter loaned at 8 per cent interest, the balance it is presumed at 10 per cent or upwards. It is probable this is not a full report of the school funds of the date referred to, but is all that is shown by the report. Meagre and imperfect as is

this report, it is of considerable value for the purpose of comparison with those of modern times.

The United States census of 1850 contains the following school statistics of McLean county:

Colleges, Academies and Schools	26
Teachers	26
Scholars (probably those attending summer schools)	800
Scholars attending school during year (of whom 19 were foreign born)	2406
Amount of money raised by taxation	$ 235
" " " public funds	560
" " " from other sources	1000
Total amount of money spent for school purposes	$1795

We find one other county report of some value, giving the condition of our schools, so far as reported, for the year 1854, which, it will be remembered, was just before our present system was put in force. This report to the legislature was made by Alexander Starne, secretary of state, and was the last report made by a secretary of state who was ex-officio state superintendent of schools, because the superintendent of public instruction, the new official called for by the great Bloomington educational convention of December 27, 1853, soon came into office and thereafter much fuller and very much better reports were obtained.

This report is not given by townships, but is simply the aggregate of the township treasurer's and township trustee's reports. It is of some value because it is intermediate between the figures we have given for 1846 and the tables furnished by Prof. J. S. Wren, which begin a few years later than 1854.

Number of acres of school land sold	1612
Number of acres of swamp land sold	240
Number of schools taught	60
Number of schools taught by males	19
Number of schools taught by females	8
Number of schools taught by females and males at same time	3
Number of schools taught by females and males at different times	18
Number of pupils taught	1958
Average number	783
Number of white persons under 21 years	7983
Number of white persons between 5 and 21 years	3709
Average number of months taught	6½

Number of schools in which average No. of pupils was 30....	37
Average number of scholars to each school	22
Average wages per month to male teachers ....$	23
Average wages per month to female teachers	18
Highest wages paid male teachers per month	40
Lowest wages paid male teachers per month.....	10
Amount of public money paid teachers	1985
Amount besides public money paid teachers.....	705
Total amount of township school fund.....	27517
Amount of money raised annually by ad valorem taxes	15
Amount of interest on state funds distributed.....	715
Amount of interest on county funds distributed..	219
Amount of interest on township funds distributed.....	228

It will be seen that only $15 of annual school taxes are reported and that most of the money paid teachers was the proceeds of public money received from the state, from the interest on county school funds and from the interest on the township school funds. These three items in the report amount to $1,162, but as it also states that $1,985 of public money was paid to teachers, the balance, excepting $15 must have been distributed from state funds.

The sum of $705 appears to have been paid teachers from other sources, and as these were the days of subscription schools, it is evident that the subscribers made up this money. The school law of 1855 marks a new era in the educational field, the free school system being by that law fully established and but little was heard of subscription schools after that date, while all, or nearly all of the schools referred to in this report were subscription schools.

This report is therefore of considerable value as marking the transition period between the semi-public and the entirely public schools of our country.

The report of 1846 showed less than $5,000 in our township school funds, but eight years thereafter these funds are shown to be $27,517, indicating that very many acres of school lands had been sold.

These reports may be considered dry and uninteresting reading, but their value will increase as time goes on, and they are here given with those which follow, in the belief that time will vindicate the wisdom of their publication.

McLean County School Districts Renumbered.

Statistical Information Furnished by John S. Wren, County Superintendent of Schools of McLean County.

A recent law requires the County Superintendent to number all the school districts in consecutive order.

Following the order of records already established in the county, the numbering starts in the southwest corner.

Districts lying in two or more counties are, in some instances, numbered irregularly, in order to avoid duplicating a number in either of the counties touched.

Old No. Dist.	New No. Dist.	SCHOOL OFFICERS.
		MT. HOPE TOWNSHIP. 22—1 W.
		Treasurer ..... A. R. Dillman, McLean
U. 2	301	Clerk .....
U. 10	300	Clerk .....
5	1	Clerk ..... W. F. Brock, McLean
2	2	Clerk ..... J. R. Kiger, McLean
3	3	Clerk ..... C. B. Wright, McLean
6	4	Clerk ..... V. L. Romans, McLean
4	5	Clerk ..... Noah Gard, McLean
9	6	Clerk ..... L. M. Stubblefield, McLean
8	7	Clerk .....
U. 7	265	Clerk .....
		FUNK'S GROVE TOWNSHIP. 22—1 E.
		Treasurer ..... C. W. Welch, McLean
U. 5	D. 1	Clerk .....
U. 6	262	Clerk ..... J. E. Burkholder, McLean
U. 7	D. 3	Clerk .....
9	8	Clerk ..... S. G. Baker, McLean
3	9	Clerk ..... A. T. Longworth, McLean
8	10	Clerk ..... John Swearingen, McLean
4	11	Clerk ..... A. P. Williams, Heyworth
1	12	Clerk ..... P. F. Hulvey, Shirley
2	13	Clerk ..... J. W. Stubblefield, Shirley
		RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP. 22—2 E.
		Treasurer ..... C. W. McComb, Heyworth
U. 5	14	Clerk ..... J. O. Davis, Heyworth
8	15	Clerk ..... Albert Fulton, Heyworth
H.	16	Clerk .....
1	17	Clerk ..... C. E. Yanney, Heyworth
7	18	Clerk ..... G. W. Marker, Lytleville
3	19	Clerk ..... Hugh Stewart, Randolph
12	20	Clerk ..... J. R. Ryburn, Heyworth
4	21	Clerk ..... J. J. Myers, Randolph
10	22	Clerk ..... A. A. Bishop, Randolph

Old No. Dist	New No. Dist	
		DOWNS TOWNSHIP. 22—3 E.
		Treasurer.....F. E. Wagner, R.R No 1, LeRoy
6	23	Clerk.....Geo. S. Johnson, Heyworth
8	24	Clerk.....Miner Linton, Southdown
10	25	Clerk.....W. S. Lafferty, LeRoy
9	26	Clerk.....J. R. Covey, LeRoy
3	27	Clerk.....Walter Nichols, R.R. No. 1, LeRoy
5	28	Clerk.....O. R. Simpson, Downs
4	29	Clerk.....F. G. Phillips, LeRoy
1	30	Clerk.....Jerome Craig, LeRoy
K.	31	Clerk.....G G. Dooley, Downs
2	32	Clerk.....O. Holdren, Gillum
7	33	Clerk.....J. R. Spelbring, Downs
		EMPIRE TOWNSHIP. 22—4 E.
		Treasurer.....John Haig, LeRoy
6	34	Clerk.....O. Deffenbaugh, LeRoy
10	35	Clerk.....Mrs. J. D. Armstrong, LeRoy
7	36	Clerk.....J. M. Vance, Empire
5	37	Clerk.....M. E Howard, LeRoy
9	38	Clerk.....T. B. Gassaway, LeRoy
4	39	Clerk.....L A. Arbuckle, LeRoy
3	40	Clerk.....M. A. Cline, LeRoy
8	41	Clerk.....Frank Hedrick, LeRoy
1	42	Clerk.....M. Dunlap, LeRoy
2	43	Clerk.....J. A. Dohmann, LeRoy
		WEST TOWNSHIP. 22—5 E.
		Treasurer.....Alex. Daniel, Glenavon
9	44	Clerk.....A. J. Kendall, Farmer City
10	45	Clerk.....Geo. B. Shere, Farmer City
11	46	Clerk.....D. J. Watters, Weedman
6	47	Clerk.....E. M Hall, Glenavon
7	48	Clerk.....Frank Huddlestone, Monarch
8	49	Clerk.....T. J Rutledge, LeRoy
3	50	Clerk.....J. C. Mathers, Monarch
4	51	Clerk.....T. J. Lane, Monarch
5	52	Clerk.....J. A. Hale, Glenavon
1	53	Clerk.....W. C. Nixon, Arrowsmith
2	54	Clerk.....L. J. West, Arrowsmith
		BELLFLOWER TOWNSHIP. 22—6 E.
		Treasurer.....W. T. Bradbury, Bellflower
7	55	Clerk.....E. Chase, Kumler
6	56	Clerk.....D. C. Dunn, Osman
U. 3	C. 43	Clerk.....
4	57	Clerk.....Jas. T. Bunney, Bellflower
5	58	Clerk.....F. H. Helmick, Bellflower
9	59	Clerk.....Robt Stuffing, Bellflower
8	60	Clerk.....Thos. W. Bradbury, Bellflower
3	61	Clerk.....Ed. S. Bradbury, Bellflower
1	62	Clerk.....A. S. B. Smith, Foosland
10	63	Clerk.....B. F. Fisher, Saybrook
2	64	Clerk.....Jacob Easterbrook, Saybrook
		ALLIN TOWNSHIP. 23—1 W.
		Treasurer.....C. S. Jones, Stanford
5	65	Clerk.....Geo. W. Smith, Stanford
4	66	Clerk.....A. J. Kerbaugh, Stanford
2	67	Clerk.....Thos. Glenn, Stanford
8	68	Clerk.....Peter Schertz, Stanford
U. 6	267	Clerk.....August Reining, Stanford
9	69	Clerk.....S. F. Harrison, Stanford
3	70	Clerk.....W. H Springer, Stanford
7	71	Clerk.....John Pleines, Danvers
U. 2	266	Clerk.....

Old No. Dist.	New No. Dist.	
		DALE TOWNSHIP. 23—1 E.
		Treasurer ..... J. L. Douglas, Shirley
7	72	Clerk ..... Jacob Sholty, Shirley
5	73	Clerk ..... L. E Spear, Shirley
1	74	Clerk ..... Geo. Park, R. F. D., Bloomington
6	75	Clerk ..... E. M. Salisbury, Covel
3	76	Clerk ..... D. S. Otto, Covel
2	77	Clerk ..... Albert Rose, Bloomington
4	78	Clerk ..... J. B. Riddings, Bloomington
		BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP. 23—2 E.
		Treasurer ..... R. S. McIntyre, Bloomington
8	79	Clerk ..... John Karr, Bloomington
U. 6	80	Clerk ..... Geo. F. Hollis, Hendrix
9	81	Clerk ..... Wm. E. Lash, Bloomington
10	82	Clerk ..... F. J. Blum, Bloomington
4	83	Clerk ..... J. D. Baird, Bloomington
7	84	Clerk ..... Frank McClellan, Bloomington
5	85	Clerk ..... Chas F. Hamer, Bloomington
2	86	Clerk ..... W. E. Reeves, Bloomington
B.	87	Clerk ..... Isla McCarty
12	88	Clerk .....
11	89	Clerk ..... E. F. Youngman, Bloomington
		OLD TOWN TOWNSHIP. 23—3 E.
		Treasurer ..... Fred. W. Boston, Holder
1	91	Clerk ..... O. O. Rodman, R.R. No. 2, Bloomington
2	92	Clerk ..... O. E. Kimler, Bloomington
3	93	Clerk ..... J. C. Dooley, Gillum
4	94	Clerk ..... Mary Murray, Holder
9	95	Clerk ..... M. H Shields, Holder
5	96	Clerk ..... John S. Percy, Holder
8	97	Clerk ..... F. W. Goodrich, Bloomington
		DAWSON TOWNSHIP. 23—4 E.
		Treasurer ..... C. A. Shinkle, Ellsworth
3	98	Clerk ..... Z. T. Strayer, LeRoy
2	99	Clerk ..... W. H. Vert, LeRoy
1	100	Clerk ..... A. L. Builta, Ellsworth
6	101	Clerk ..... G. F. Linton, Ellsworth
5	102	Clerk ..... T O. Pratt, Padua
4	103	Clerk ..... Frank Spencer, Padua
9	104	Clerk ..... G. D. Benjamin, Holder
8	105	Clerk ..... Wm. Dee, Padua
7	106	Clerk ..... W. W. Parks, Ellsworth
		ARROWSMITH TOWNSHIP. 23—5 E.
		Treasurer ..... J. A. Taylor, Arrowsmith
1	107	Clerk ..... Jno. Manahan, Arrowsmith
2	108	Clerk ..... R. E. Pittsenbarger, Arrowsmith
3	109	Clerk ..... John Siler, Saybrook
4	110	Clerk ..... Wm. Wills, Arrowsmith
5	111	Clerk ..... W. P. Brooke, Arrowsmith
6	112	Clerk ..... S. N. Curry, Ellsworth
7	113	Clerk ..... Jno. Sullivan, Arrowsmith
8	114	Clerk ..... J. C. Bane, Arrowsmith
9	115	Clerk ..... E. A. Flinspach, Arrowsmith
		CHENEY'S GROVE TOWNSHIP. 23—6 E.
		Treasurer ..... C. A Schureman, Saybrook
4	116	Clerk ..... F. G Cooper, Saybrook
7	117	Clerk ..... H. B. Stauffer, Saybrook
6	118	Clerk ..... E. H. Newcomb, Saybrook
5	119	Clerk ..... C. M C. Hamilton, Saybrook
8	120	Clerk ..... A. Tipsord, Saybrook
3	121	Clerk ..... B. Blum, Saybrook
2	122	Clerk ..... Melvin Stine, Saybrook
1	123	Clerk ..... A. Augsperger, Gibson City

Old No. Dist.	New No. Dist.	
		DANVERS TOWNSHIP. 24—1 W.
		Treasurer.....J. B. Vance, Danvers
U. 20	268	Clerk.....
U. 1	124	Clerk.....John T. Ayers, Danvers
6	125	Clerk.....Geo. B. Dunlap, Danvers
U. 5	126	Clerk.....Geo. Simpson, Danvers
U. 10	127	Clerk.....Thos. Shorthose, Danvers
4	128	Clerk.....T. A. Clark, Danvers
3	129	Clerk.....C. N. Hinshaw, Danvers
2	130	Clerk.....Peter J. Osborn, Woodruff
U. 6	269	Clerk.....
U. 4	270	Clerk.....
8	131	Clerk.....S. E. Smith, Danvers
9	132	Clerk.....Peter Risser, Danvers
7	133	Clerk.....John Wilson, Danvers
		DRY GROVE TOWNSHIP. 24—1 E.
		Treasurer.....G. W. Piper, Yuton
2	134	Clerk.....S. A. Munsell, Danvers
1	135	Clerk.....J. H. Hodler, Bloomington
6	136	Clerk.....F. S. Brown, Yuton
9	137	Clerk.....G. W Lacy, Yuton
3	138	Clerk.....Richard Otto, Danvers
4	139	Clerk.....A J. King, Carlock
12	140	Clerk.....Jacob Engel, Carlock
8	141	Clerk.....J. N. Hilton, Yuton
11	142	Clerk.....J. H. Myers, Yuton
		NORMAL TOWNSHIP. 24—2 E.
		Treasurer.....J. B. Miller, Normal
1	143	Clerk.....S. B. Otto, R.F.D., Normal
N.	144	Clerk.....E A. Fritter, Normal
3	145	Clerk.....Frank Boling, Normal
4	146	Clerk.....O. E. Norris, Normal
5	147	Clerk.....F. B Molesworth, Normal
6	148	Clerk.....J. M. Oringdulph, R.F.D., Normal
7	149	Clerk.....Henry Schultz, R.F.D , Normal
8	150	Clerk.....Geo. Bohrer, Kerrick
9	151	Clerk.....John J. Killian, Normal
		TOWANDA TOWNSHIP. 24—3 E.
		Treasurer.....Geo. Hilts, Towanda
5	152	Clerk.....F. Elvin, Barnes
6	153	Clerk.....John Kelly, Barnes
4	154	Clerk.....M. Gould, Merna
3	155	Clerk.....E. J. Carmody, Merna
1	156	Clerk.....S. R. Hilts, Towanda
8	157	Clerk.....Louis Kraft, Towanda
2	158	Clerk.....S. G. Sands, Towanda
		BLUE MOUND TOWNSHIP. 24—4 E.
		Treasurer.....A. L. Fossett, Cooksville
9	159	Clerk.....Jas. Vincent, Jr., Fletcher
8	160	Clerk.....C. Hopt, Cooksville
7	161	Clerk.....J. W. Swallow, Cooksvile
6	162	Clerk.....C. S. Weed, Cooksville
5	163	Clerk.....Fred. Ehlers, Cooksville
4	164	Clerk.....C. C. Conger, Fletcher
3	165	Clerk.....T. P. Owens, Lexington
2	166	Clerk.....R. T. Smith, Cooksville
10	167	Clerk.....H. W. Warner, Cooksville
1	168	Clerk.....Geo. Weidner, Cooksville
		MARTIN TOWNSHIP. 24—5 E.
		Treasurer.....Carlile Scott, Colfax
9	169	Clerk.....John Scholl, Arrowsmith
8	170	Clerk.....J. W Dysert, Arrowsmith
7	171	Clerk.....J. M. Crawford, Colfax

FRANCIS M. MOATS.
MRS. REBECCA A. MOATS.

HENRY MOATS.
MRS. ELSIE MOATS.

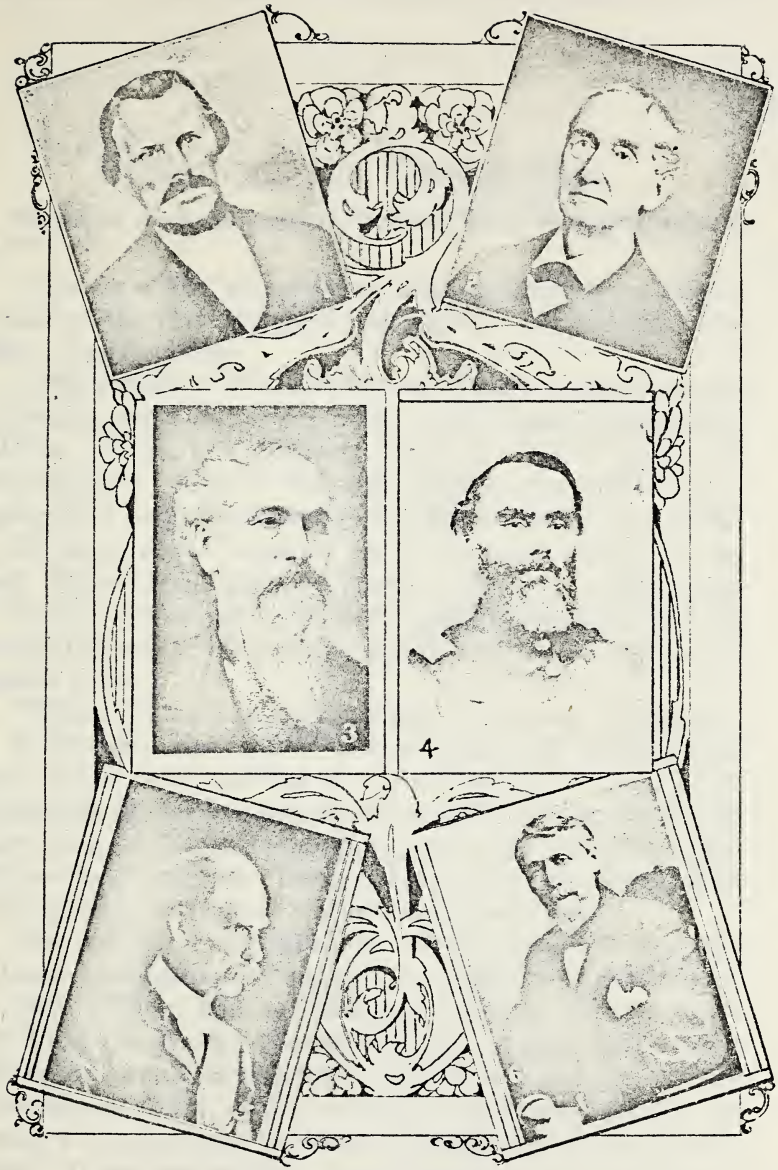
Old No. Dist.	New No. Dist.	
		MARTIN TOWNSHIP—*Continued.*
		24--5E.
6	172	Clerk.....D D. Sailor, Colfax
5	173	Clerk.....Wm Gaddis, Colfax
4	174	Clerk.....John Willson, Colfax
3	175	Clerk.....F. M. Plott, Colfax
2	176	Clerk.....L. R. Wiley, Colfax
1	177	Clerk.....J. F. Ransom, Colfax
		ANCHOR TOWNSHIP.
		24—6 E.
		Treasurer.....A. B. Means, Anchor
6	178	Clerk.....H. G. Lage, Anchor
4	179	Clerk.....W. N. Jones. Anchor
5	181	Clerk.....F. P. Johnson, Gibson City
U. 1	180	Clerk.....M. Kerber, Anchor
9	182	Clerk.....Fred Beilfeldt. Anchor
3	183	Clerk.....Geo. Ulmer. Colfax
2	187	Clerk.....G. W. Rutledge, Anchor
U. 7	188	Clerk.....Jno. Martenson, Anchor
		DANVERS TOWNSHIP.
		25—1 W.
		Treasurer.....Eli Sharp, Congerville
U. 4	184	Clerk.....G. H. Lander, Danvers
U. 6	185	Clerk.....J. E Rupp, Danvers
U. 5	186	Clerk.....J. E. Yoder, Carlock
		WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP.
		25—1 E.
		Treasurer.....Timothy O'Leary, Carlock
12	189	Clerk.....Adam Zook, Carlock
7	190	Clerk.....T. H. Hamilton, Carlock
11	192	Clerk.....Joseph King, Carlock
5	193	Clerk.....Ira Williamson, R.R. No. 1, Normal
4	191	Clerk.....S. L. Stutzman, Carlock
U. 3	261	Clerk.....
		HUDSON TOWNSHIP.
		25—2 E.
		Treasurer.....G. W. Gastman, Hudson
8	194	Clerk.....A. J. Baldridge, R.R. No. 1, Normal
7	195	Clerk.....Lafayette Busic, Hudson
5	196	Clerk.....Wm. Schlosser, Hudson
4	197	Clerk.....Edward Ambrose, Hudson
1	198	Clerk.....Wm. E. Snavely, Hudson
9	199	Clerk.....Valentine Birkey, Hudson
3	200	Clerk.....George Ames, Hudson
2	201	Clerk.....Wm. J. Junk, Hudson
6	202	Clerk.....Marian Buzzard, Hudson
		MONEY CREEK TOWNSHIP.
		25—3 E.
		Treasurer.....F. E. Mahan, Lexington
3	203	Clerk.....W.H. Cogill, Lexington
4	204	Clerk.....T. M. Donahue, Towanda
5	205	Clerk.....W. H. Potts, Lexington
2	206	Clerk.....W. E. Barnard, Lexington
8	207	Clerk.....A. A Steward, Lexington
6	208	Clerk.....W. H. Curry, Lexington
1	209	Clerk.....Rilla Mahan, Lexington
		LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP.
		25—4 E.
		Treasurer.....N. F. McConnell, Lexington
U. 10	210	Clerk.....Marian Wick, Lexington
7	211	Clerk.....S. A. Finley, Lexington
3	212	Clerk.....Wm. Edwards, Lexington
2	213	Clerk.....Hiram Henline, Lexington
4	214	Clerk.....Dan Mealy, Lexington
6	215	Clerk.....E. H. Hyneman, Lexington
5	216	Clerk.....A. Carnahan, Lexington
9	217	Clerk.....J. A. Moon, Lexington
1	218	Clerk.....R. G. Jones, Lexington

Old No. Dist.	New No. Dist.	
		LAWNDALE TOWNSHIP. 25—5 E.
		Treasurer ..... W. C. Knight, Colfax
4	219	Clerk ..... H. C. Henline, Colfax
5	220	Clerk ..... J. M. Reynolds, Colfax
6	221	Clerk ..... Wm. A. Harris, Colfax
7	222	Clerk ..... C. E. Arnold, Colfax
9	223	Clerk ..... E. S. Coepe, Colfax
8	224	Clerk ..... D. J. Fitzpatrick, Colfax
3	225	Clerk ..... John Moon, R.R. No. 1, Lexington
2	226	Clerk ..... John S. Moore, R.R No. 1, Lexington
1	227	Clerk ..... E. L. Leaf, Colfax
		CROPSEY TOWNSHIP. 25—6 E.
		Treasurer ..... H. L. Barnes, Cropsey
9	228	Clerk ..... P. J. Decker, Anchor
U. 8	229	Clerk ..... P. B. Nafzinger, Anchor
U. 6	302	Clerk ..... G. M. Meeker, Cropsey
U. 5	303	Clerk ..... H. A. Thomas, Cropsey
U. 4	304	Clerk ..... G. H. Bennett, Fairbury
		GRIDLEY TOWNSHIP. 26—2 E.
		Treasurer ..... L. K. Evans, ElPaso
1	230	Clerk ..... C. V. Patton, Kappa
6	231	Clerk ..... John H. Ritter, ElPaso
3	232	Clerk ..... Jas. R. North, ElPaso
7	234	Clerk ..... Pat. Welch, Gridley
U. 10	233	Clerk .....
		GRIDLEY TOWNSHIP. 26—3 E.
		Treasurer ..... C. M. Coyle, Gridley
2	235	Clerk ..... W. A. Turnipseed, Fifer
1	236	Clerk ..... Frank Freed, Gridley
4	237	Clerk ..... Sherman Freed, Gridley
6	238	Clerk ..... C. R. Burnham, Gridley
5	239	Clerk ..... G. A. Frank, Gridley
3	240	Clerk ..... S. M. Kirk, Gridley
		CHENOA TOWNSHIP. 26—4 E.
		Treasurer ..... Chas. Nickel, Chenoa
5	241	Clerk ..... W. F. Payne, Lexington
3	242	Clerk ..... Wm. Hotsenpillar, Chenoa
4	243	Clerk ..... N. C. Starkey, Chenoa
7	244	Clerk ..... J. F. Johnson, Chenoa
6	245	Clerk ..... Chas. Miller, Chenoa
8	246	Clerk ..... Joseph Zimmerman, Meadows
2	247	Clerk ..... C. L. Roth, Chenoa
9	248	Clerk ..... Nic Bauman, Chenoa
1	249	Clerk ..... H. F. Ballard, Chenoa
		YATES TOWNSHIP. 26—5 E.
		Treasurer ..... Robt. Stewart, Jr., Weston
9	250	Clerk ..... Abner Gray, Chenoa
8	251	Clerk ..... Wm. Harrison, Chenoa
7	252	Clerk ..... E. B Myer, Fairbury
6	253	Clerk ..... C. C. Smith, Fairbury
5	254	Clerk ..... P. A. Koerner, Chenoa
4	255	Clerk ..... John N Gentes, Chenoa
3	256	Clerk ..... A. Fishback, Chenoa
2	257	Clerk ..... J. P. Stephens, Weston
1	258	Clerk ..... Joseph Hawks, Weston

	1900	1890	1880
Number of males between the ages of 6 and 21....	9 488	10 249	10 301
Number of females between the ages of 6 and 21.	9 201	9 951	9 989
	1870	1860	....
Number of white persons under 21 years of age...	26 608	16 272	.....
Number of colored persons under 21 years of age.	255	.....	.....

	1900	1890	1880
Number of males enrolled in ungraded schools	3 135	3 701	4 255
Number of females enrolled in ungraded schools	2 852	3 341	3 977
	1870	1860	....
Number of scholars in private schools	517	591	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Number of male pupils enrolled in graded schools	4 070	3 350	2 855
Number of female pupils enrolled graded schools	4 194	3 521	2 937
	1870	1860	....
Number of female scholars	6 639	3 853	.....
Number of male scholars	7 653	4 396	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Whole number school districts	265	258	261
	1870	1860	....
Whole number of school districts	241	197	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Number of public schools in county	277	275	269
	1870	1860	....
Whole number of free schools in county	261	178	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Number of public high schools	12	5	2
	1870	....	....
Whole number public high schools	3	.....	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Days attendance in graded and ungraded schools	1,717,529½	1,506,197	1,379,284
	1870	....	....
Grand total days attendance in county	1,001,025	.....	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Whole number of school houses	277	275	274
	1870	1860	..
Whole number of school houses	228	164	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Number of school houses built during year	3	1	2
	1870	1860	....
Number of school houses erected during year	17	14	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Number of frame school houses	245	251	252
	1870	....	....
Whole number frame school houses	213	.....	.....
Whole number log school houses	2	.....	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Number of brick school houses	32	24	22
	1870	1860	....
Whole number brick school houses	16	.....	.....
Paid as rent for houses or rooms for schools	$894 21	$346 00	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Paid as rent for houses or rooms for schools	.....	.....	$29
Number of graded schools	36	35	23
	1870	1860	....
Whole number of graded schools	39	14	.....
Number of ungraded schools	222	175	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Number of ungraded schools	241	240	246
Number of months graded schools were in session	301½	290	196
Number months ungraded schools were in session	1 949⅓	1 900	1 871
	1870	1860	....
Whole number of private schools	13	11	

	1900	1890	1880
Whole number of private schools	0	3	1
Number of female teachers in ungraded schools	194	224	213
Number of female teachers in graded schools	162	127	105
	1870	1860	....
Number of female teachers	248	135	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Number male teachers in graded schools	36	19	13
Number of male teachers in ungraded schools	71	119	178
	1870	1860	....
Number of male teachers in county	178	152	
	1900	1890	1880
Lowest monthly wages paid any male teacher	$30.00	$27.50	$ 3.33
Lowest monthly wages paid any female teacher	$25.00	$25.00	$14.50
Highest monthly wages paid any female teacher	$85.00	$100.00	$87.50
Highest monthly wages paid any male teacher	$154.17	$133.33	$100.00
	1870	1860	....
Lowest monthly wages paid to any male teacher	$25.00	$18.00	.....
Lowest monthly wages paid any female teacher	$21.66	$12.00	.....
Highest monthly wages paid any female teacher	$60.00	$40.0	.....
Highest monthly wages paid to any male teacher	$180.00	$65.00	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Number of districts having libraries	126	11	19
Whole number of volumes in district libraries	8 451	1 664	421
	1870	1860	....
Whole number of volumes in district libraries	199		
	1900	1890	1880
Amount paid for books for district libraries	$237 62	$29.90	$35.05
Number of vols. bought during year for libraries	1 349	23	116
	1870	1860	....
Amount paid for books for district libraries	$210.00	$114.00	
Number of vols. bought during year for libraries	45	.....	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Estimated value of school libraries	$9,969.82	$2,615 00	$1,246.00
Amount paid for school apparatus	$1,179.56	$1,222.70	$ 325.16
Estimated value of school apparatus	$7,742.35	$5,494.00	$3,200.00
	1870	1860	
Paid for school apparatus	$1,416.34	$248.00	.....
Val. of school furniture, apparatus, libraries, etc	$29,772.73	.....	.....
Paid for school furniture	$3,531 98	$363.00	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Total amount received during year by twp. treas	$387,293.25	$284,518.08	$256,749.36
	1870	1860	....
Total amount received including balance	$246,017.85	$45,818.00	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Amount of distributable funds	$29,312.24	$32,907.56	$35,756.76
Total expenditures of the year	$303,948.63	$218,026.03	$219,780.68
	1870	1860	....
Total expenditures during year	$197,400.66	$41,561.00	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Total investments	$235,011.77	$211,562.40	$196,547.02
Amount of district tax levy for support of schools	$187,572.51	$186,974.56	$110,252.37
	1870	1860	....
Special district tax fund received	$135,221.85	$25,256.00	.....
	1900	1890	1880
Amount of special district taxes received	$255,851.64	$176,023.46	$152,388.86
	1870	1860	....
Special district taxes	.....	$135,221.85	$25,256
	1900	1890	1880
Estimated value of school property	$745,279.87	$559,265.00	$411,665 00



PANTAGRAPH GROUP.

1. Charles P. Merriman.
2. William Hill.
3. William E. Foote.
4. Capt. Edward J. Lewis.
5. Joseph B. Bates.
6. William O. Davis.

History of the Pantagraph.

Written for the McLean County Historical Society by Captain Edward J. Lewis.

A history of the Pantagraph would seem incomplete without an account of the first newspaper published in Bloomington, with which I therefore begin.

In the autumn of 1836, the little town of Bloomington, founded and made a county seat as long before as 1831, began to cherish the ambition common to all budding American cities, to possess its own newspaper. Jesse W. Fell, then and ever after active in promoting every enterprise for the good of the community, was probably the prime mover—certainly one of the prime movers—in the work. He and James Allin, the founder of the town, commissioned A. Gridley, then an active and public-spirited young merchant, on his next trip east to buy goods, to engage a printer and provide the requisite outfit.

William Hill, a young Philadelphia printer, and his partner, W. B. Brittain, were enlisted to assume the part of publishers. They shipped their material via New Orleans, and came on to Bloomington in October; but the arrival of the freight was so long delayed that Mr. Brittain gave up his share in the enterprise to Mr. Hill, and went back east. The material came at last, and the office was temporarily established in a room of the court house.

The new paper was called the "Bloomington Observer and McLean County Advocate," and its first number was issued January 14, 1837. William Hill was editor and publisher. Twenty years later I had the privilege of examining a file of about twenty numbers, nearly or quite consecutive, beginning with the first. It was a five-column weekly, of very creditable appearance for that day in so new a country, and showing both ability and taste in its conductor. It was non-political. Local occurrences and interests received their fair share of attention; although, it well may be, events of public importance were not frequent in the secluded village, and much of the matter with which the modern reporter pads his daily

columns was not then sought for publication. The first number contains the proceedings of two recent meetings, discussing the subject of a public library; and the building of a market house and digging public wells are advocated in later issues. I do not know that anybody took pains to preserve this interesting relic of early journalism in Bloomington, and it is doubtless irrecoverably lost.

The Observer was published by Mr. Hill for about a year, when Jesse W. Fell became its proprietor and editor. He continued it about a year and a half longer, with energy and ability, as those of us who knew him will not doubt; but the increasing "hard times" proved too much for this as for many another struggling enterprise, and the publication was discontinued, probably about June or July, 1839. The office material was sold out and removed, it is believed, to Peoria, and Bloomington was left without a newspaper. Both the Observer's conductors, Mr. Hill and Mr. Fell, as is well known, spent most of their years subsequently in this vicinity, and died here at a well advanced age.

So far as I am informed, no paper was thereafter published here until November, 1846, when Charles P. Merriman established the "Western Whig," a weekly, of which a very incomplete or rather a fragmentary file is in the public library. The issue of August 5, 1848, is No. 40 of Vol. 2; it states the place of publication as "No 3 Brick Row, Front street." This, I think, was on the south side of Front street, west of Main, one of several brick buildings which were burned in the fall of 1856. Mr. Merriman appears as proprietor and editor up to September 22, 1849, where the file is broken; but in the issue of January 15, 1850, R. H. Johnson and I. N. Underwood appear in that capacity, in which they remain until November 19, 1851; although for about six months of this period Mr. Merriman was associated in the editorship. At this date, November 19, 1851, the end of the fifth volume, Johnson & Underwood retired, and were succeeded by J. W. Fell and C. P. Merriman, and the name of the paper was changed to the Bloomington Intelligencer. Mr. Fell appears alone as editor and publisher in the issue of March 17, 1852, but on November 17 following he retired and was again succeeded by C. P. Merriman. About a year later, Mr. Merriman rechristened the paper by the unique name of Pantagraph—meaning, as he himself was accustomed to explain it, "to write all things,"—which name has since remained unchanged.

As a good deal has been said at various times, and even quite lately, about this name, and its meaning and appropriateness, I may mention that the word itself, "pantagraph," or "pantograph," as Webster prefers to spell it, is not a recent invention, but has long been the name of an instrument well known to draughtsmen, by which copies are made, on the same scale or a larger or smaller one, of drawings in general, including maps, plans and figures. Webster derives it from two Greek words meaning "all" and "description." He also gives the word "pantography: general description; view of an entire thing." I saw the pantograph instrument at work when I was a boy, not much short of sixty years ago. The facility with which a newspaper produces copies or descriptions of world-happenings, big and little—sometimes on a reduced scale, sometimes, as people think, on a greatly enlarged or exaggerated one, suggests an appropriateness in the name of Pantagraph, even if we derive it from that of the draughtsman's instrument.

To return to our narrative. The paper, throughout these several changes of proprietorship, management and name, as Whig, Intelligencer and Pantagraph, was Whig in politics, and with the dissolution of the Whig party and the rise of the Republican, at a little later than the date we have reached, it naturally became Republican, and has so continued ever since.

The link which connects it with the pioneer Observer, and gives color to its claim to be at least the legitimate heir of the first paper published in Bloomington, is the proprietorship and editorship of both by Jesse W. Fell—the real father of so many of the desirable institutions of Bloomington and McLean county as we have them to-day.

Mr. Charles L. Steele, the veteran printer, who was for half a lifetime connected with the paper in one capacity or another, tells me that he came to Bloomington in March, 1851, and obtained employment with the Western Whig, then published by Mr. Merriman in the second story over Painter's drug store, on north side of Front street, east of Center. Later the office was removed to the second story of a building on the west side of Main street between Washington and Front, and on the north side of the alley, where Heldman's clothing store is now. There, in the spring of 1855, it appears, Mr. Merriman put in two new Northrup presses, the first power presses in Bloomington; a newspaper press run by hand,

and a treadle job press. Mr. Steele, however, does not cherish them in his recollection as mechanical successes. At about that time also, Mr. Merriman and his partner, Jacob Morris—a worthy man whom I knew and esteemed—began a tri-weekly, or possibly daily, issue of the paper. This was a little before I came to Bloomington. I am not sure that I ever saw this tri-weekly—or daily, if it became such—and I cannot give dates for its inception or suspension, but suppose it was published, at the place last named, until the next marked event on the calendar, the great fire of October 16, 1855, which destroyed the Pantagraph office, and with it nearly everything else on the block bounded by Main, Center, Washington and Front streets. A day or two after that event, I saw Mr. Merriman among the fragments of the outfit saved from the wreck, in a one-story frame building, as I recollect it, standing on the northeast corner of Main and Washington streets—the present National State bank corner, where the paper resumed publication as a weekly. A few weeks later, about December 1, 1855, the establishment was purchased by William E. Foote, a young printer from Keeseville, N. Y., who had been foreman of the office. Mr. Merriman continued to edit it until the following June, 1856, when I succeeded him in the editorial chair, Mr. Foote remaining proprietor and publisher.

Mr. Foote's proprietorship marked an epoch in the history of the paper. He was a first-class printer, of unsurpassed skill and excellent taste. He was born in Peru, N. Y., May 16, 1826; at about twelve years of age entered a printing office in Burlington, Vt.; later served an apprenticeship at Cleveland, O.; where while still a minor, he became part proprietor of a small paper, with a partner near his own age. Thence he went to Chicago, and later came to Bloomington. Here his enterprise and energy found full scope in the development and improvement of the paper and the job office. The latter soon became celebrated throughout the west for the beauty of its finer work, taking premiums at several high-class exhibitions. The entire printing of the Chicago & Alton road was done for several years by this office. In the newspaper also great improvements were made in the type and make-up, to the great advantage of its general appearance, and the proprietor stimulated and liberally assisted efforts for the elevation of its literary tone and general standing. Special attention was given to local matters

—the field of really chief importance in the country newspaper. The custom at that day was to issue a Christmas souvenir, and on this for several years Mr. Foote exercised his artistic taste as well as his liberality in obtaining contributions from writers of ability, with results which were regarded at the time as quite phenomenal. In short, I think it is not too much to say that the improvement in the paper was fully commensurate with the demands of the vast development which was taking place at this period—1855 to 1860—in Illinois and the west.

The issue of the Daily Pantagraph was begun February 23, 1857. A liberal quantity of telegraph was taken from the start, and soon brought the Daily into favor with the public. The local news department was early placed in charge of workers devoted to it alone, and speedily grew into importance. William R. McCracken, a "born" reporter, conducted this department for two years or more, from April, 1857, to 1859, and was the man who first developed it into what it should be, a department of first-class importance in the paper, a mirror of the daily life of the local community. Bloomington has cause to remember McCracken with respect, as her first real local editor.

Franklin Price, Charles L. Steele and J. W. Richardson successively localized for short periods in the last half of 1859.

In the Pantagraph of January 14, 1857, just twenty years after the first appearance of the Observer, I published a notice of that paper, giving its history and briefly sketching that of the Whig, Intelligencer and Pantagraph. At that time, all the successive publishers and editors of those papers were believed to be living, and all residents of McLean county except Johnson and Underwood, who, I believe, were then publishing a paper in Decatur. I think none of them are alive now.

January 28, 1860, the Pantagraph establishment was sold by Mr. Foote to A. J. Merriman, then and long after a prominent and honored citizen of Bloomington, and his uncle, C. P. Merriman, again became its editor, E. J. Lewis retiring. Mr. Foote went to St. Louis, and later to Chicago, where for several years he was connected with the Inter Ocean and Legal News. He died in March, 1888, at Kansas City, Mo., where he had formed an establishment which he called the Pantagraph Printing Company, show-

ing his constant affection for the pride and joy of his younger manhood, the Pantagraph of Bloomington.

The Merrimans now associated with themselves in both proprietorship and editorship, as early as March 21, 1860, Rev. F. J. Briggs, a Universalist minister, who wielded a "slashing" pen and a fearless and able one, but was not always conspicuous for discretion or moderation. The publication of the daily was suspended about February 15, 1860, a few days after the change of ownership—apparently from lack of faith in its paying prospects, but the suspension appears to have elicited a storm of protest from subscribers, and perhaps some more tangible assurances of support, for the publication was resumed March 29, and has not since been interrupted. The Pantagraph claimed to be the first paper to hoist the name of Abraham Lincoln for president, and supported him vigorously for nomination and election.

From April 3 to August 8, 1861, E. J. Lewis again served as editor, then resigning to enter the army. C. P. Merriman for the last time formally dissolved his connection with the editorship, July 17, 1861. This veteran in newspaper work in Bloomington was a scholarly man, an old school teacher, and an able writer. I am glad to know that a sketch of his life, by a thoroughly competent hand, is to be preserved in the Historical Society's publications.

July 31, 1861, the publishing firm of the Pantagraph is announced as Steele, Carpenter & Briggs, to-wit: C. L. Steele and E. S. Carpenter, old employees of the office, and F. J. Briggs, and so continued until January, 1866, when Mr. Carpenter died while on a visit to his old home in New York state. Thaddeus B. Packard, a son-in-law of Mr. Briggs, then joined the firm, which became Steele, Briggs & Co., and continued the publication to October, 1867.

During this period there were several changes of editors. Thomas Moore appears to have assumed both the general and local editorship at some time in 1861, and resigned August 26, 1863. Henry B. Norton is published as editor September 16, 1863. He also conducted both the general and local departments, most of the time without help, until July, 1864, when J. H. Burnham assumed the same double task, to retire in February, 1867, and be succeeded by Thomas Moore. If during this period of six years or more the paper did not maintain the standard established by Mr. Foote—

which I think must be conceded—it certainly was not due to want of editorial ability, but rather to lack of sufficient help, to close restrictions upon the amount of matter allowed to be published, and in short to lack of means or of enterprise in the publishing department.

Among the editors of this time, Henry B. Norton should be especially named. He was born in 1836, in Orleans county, New York, studied in several institutions, and graduated from our Normal University in 1861. After teaching for some time at Warsaw, Ill., as principal of the high school, he became editor here in September, 1863; labored under a heavy handicap from the shattered state of his health, and left the editorship in July, 1864. In Kansas he was associate principal of the State Normal school for ten years—1865 to 1875—and also became a minister of a Congregational church. Here his health broke down utterly and was only restored after some three years of enforced retirement, much of it spent in traveling among the Indians. Finally, in 1875, he accepted a similar position in the State Normal school of California. Here he rose to the highest rank in the estimate of the educational men of the state, both for his work as professor in school and as a diligent lecturer and speaker at institutes and educational gatherings, serving also at the same time in his capacity as a minister; and died, universally lamented, June 22, 1885, in the fiftieth year of his age.

On October 24, 1867, Steele, Briggs & Co. sold the Pantagraph to Scibird & Waters—John S. Scibird and Orin Waters—afterwards known for some years as founders and conductors of the Bloomington Leader. They made no change in the editor, but do not give his name in their announcement. B. F. Diggs certainly held the position a few months later.

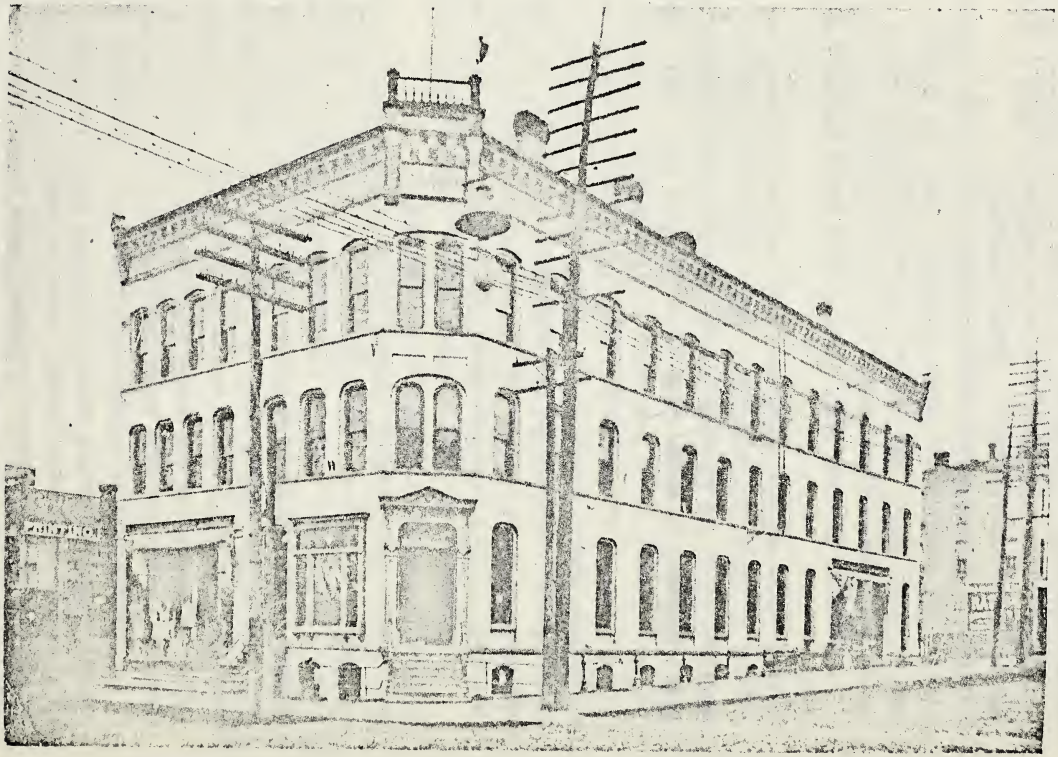
August 6, 1868, the establishment was sold to Jesse W. Fell, his son-in-law, William O. Davis, and James P. Taylor, who had been on the point of establishing a new paper at Normal when the proposition of sale was made to them. The publishing firm assumed the name of The Pantagraph Company, which is then named as publisher at the head of the paper up to February 20, 1871. On that day a notice appears of the dissolution of the firm, Mr. Fell and Mr. Taylor retiring—said dissolution dating from January 1, 1871. Mr. Davis had bought out the interests of his partners, and become

sole proprietor; and from that date, February 20, 1871, his name so appears in the paper. He has so continued to the present time, except that for several of the later years his son, H. O. Davis, has been associated with him.

The long proprietorship of Mr. Davis marks the development of the Pantagraph from the state of a respectable country newspaper to that of a well-grown city daily with a large country clientage. The telegraph has become the main reliance for general news; the local department has developed greatly in importance and in the thoroughness of its handling by a force of active reporters, and there has been a very large increase in the line of news from the surrounding country, even from precincts in many adjacent counties, furnished mainly by special correspondents. The working material of the office has been enormously improved and increased in accordance with modern requirements, and the whole establishment has been built up from the condition of a struggling enterprise to that of a well established and valuable business.

The mainspring of this great development has, of course, been the great business ability of the proprietor. He knew nothing of the printing business when he began, and had to learn it step by step, in the face of many difficulties. But he learned it so well as to place himself among the most successful newspaper publishers of the state, and to establish the Pantagraph on a safe and permanent basis.

In the course of years sundry appendages to the newspaper became largely developed. Beside the job office, a bindery, blank book factory, tablet factory and wholesale stationery department were successfully established. In 1886, Mr. Davis, and James T. Roney, W. B. Read and J. J. Condon, employees, formed an incorporated company with $30,000 paid up capital, called the Pantagraph Printing Company, for the operation of these side lines, an arrangement which continued about three years. In August, 1889, all these interests, by this time still more largely developed, were sold out to a new company, the Pantagraph Printing and Stationery Company, with $60,000 capital, which is still in operation, occupying a large portion of the great building which has grown out of the original Pantagraph building erected in 1875. The newspaper, wholly distinct from these adjuncts, has continued steadily



PANTAGRAPH AND PANTAGRAPH PRINTING AND STATIONERY CO. BUILDING.

in the hands of Mr. Davis. Some of his editorial helpers during these developments may now be spoken of.

Dr. Edward R. Roe is announced as chief editor as early as January 1, 1869, and he continued so until October, 1871. He was an old and honored citizen of Bloomington, having come here in 1852, long a practicing physician, a man of recognized scientific and literary ability, author of several published books, and editor here of the Illinois Baptist, Illinois Statesman, etc. He served in the civil war, reached the rank of lieutenant-colonel of the Thirty-third Illinois regiment, and was severely wounded in the assault on Vicksburg May 22, 1863, which caused his discharge. He afterwards was clerk of the circuit court and recorder of deeds, and was a member of the legislature of 1871. He was a vigorous and versatile writer. In October, 1871, he was appointed marshal of the southern district of Illinois, and resigned his editorship on the 23d of that month. He afterward resided chiefly in Springfield, and died in Chicago November 6, 1893, at the age of 80.

I succeeded Dr. Roe as chief editor, October, 1871, having previously worked with him about two months as assistant, and I resigned the chair March 15, 1879, having, "for my sins," as Spaniards say, accepted the postmastership at Normal, in which I served four years. In all, I had worked on the Pantagraph nearly twelve years. If anything more of my life is thought worth recording here, I may say I was born in Philadelphia, September 25, 1828; educated at home on a farm; studied law; came west in 1855; served in the army as private, lieutenant and captain, from August 15, 1861, to December 7, 1865, about four years and four months, being captain about two years and seven months of this time.

Daniel A. Ray was local editor and at times assistant general editor, for three years or more; as early as August, 1870, and as late as July, 1873. He was a good news gatherer and a ready writer. He became an active politician; was for several years secretary to United States Senator Cullom, and is now holding an official position in Honolulu. (Since deceased.)

William H. Whitehead was for a number of years a valuable assistant on the paper, helping as required in any department, local, general editing, business office, advertising, etc. He came with Mr. Taylor in 1868 from Mr. Davis' home town, West Chester, Pa.,

where he had learned the printing art in the office of the Village Record, a remarkably successful country paper, made so by its great industry in collecting local news from all parts of its territory. The lessons he had there learned in that and other departments were freely imparted to the publisher, to whom he became a valued and confidential adviser and general assistant, much to the benefit of the paper, as its proprietor freely acknowledges. Mr. Whitehead was admitted to the bar and practiced for some years in Bloomington, and afterwards became a banker in Golden, Colo.

William McCambridge became local editor nearly thirty years ago, about 1872. He soon developed a marked fitness for newspaper work, having a keen scent for news, energy and untiring industry in hunting it down, and a ready and vivacious pen to record it. The local department was much improved and modernized under his management; and at various times during his long service nearly every department, telegraphic, general editorial, etc., was worked on and benefited by his service. A practical telegraph operator himself, he long acted as telegraphic correspondent of certain Chicago journals, keeping them advised of Bloomington happenings, as a side line to his regular work for the Pantagraph. In 1897 he was appointed assistant postmaster of Bloomington, and has ceased to belong to the regular newspaper force.

Joseph B. Bates, the present general editor, has been nearly twenty years in the service of the paper, having begun with the Pantagraph in May, 1883, and been continuously with it since. He previously owned and edited the Tazewell County Republican, at Pekin, Illinois, and afterward did editorial work on the Lincoln (Ill.) Herald before coming here. He was born near Jacksonville, Illinois, and was educated at Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, graduating from that institution in 1866. He later went South and taught and took some interest in politics, being on the Republican electoral ticket in Alabama in 1876. He returned to Illinois in 1877 and has since been recognized as among the prominent writers of this section of the state. He has taken great interest in promoting local improvements in Bloomington and is a member of the leading literary club of the city.

William Bach, pressman, and Julius Reichel, foreman, have both served in the Pantagraph office continuously for over thirty years, since 1869.

C. C. Marquis, the present business manager, began with the paper in 1877.

As to places of publication since the great fire of 1855. As early as December, 1855, the office was located in the third story of building No. 2 in Union block, which was the brick block on Center street directly west of the court house and north of the alley. Later it occupied also the third story of No. 3, and as early as December, 1857, had the counting room in the second story front room of No. 1, cornering on the alley. In November, 1857, the working office was moved into the third story of the building on the south side of the alley, and an iron stairway was thrown across the alley, connecting with the counting room. Some years later, this room also was moved into the south building. In October, 1868, the entire office was removed to the Market House building, northeast corner of Center and North (now Monroe) streets; and thence, October 30, 1875, to the Pantagraph building, then just built, on the northwest corner of Washington and Madison streets—at first a small structure of two stories and a basement, since much enlarged by extension north to the alley and westward and the addition of another story at top.

Such is an outline of the Pantagraph's history so far as known to me. More might have been said, which perhaps would be of interest to some, but it may be I have already overtaxed the patience of most of my readers.

History of Withers Public Library

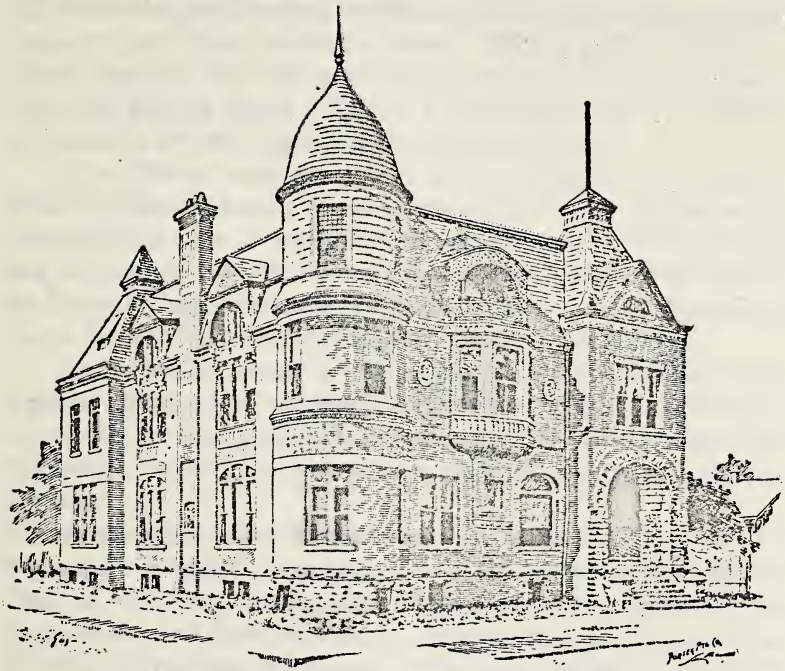
BY CAROLINE F. KIMBALL.

There is preserved among other historical material in the Withers Public Library of Bloomington, a copy of the first issue of a small paper entitled the "Monthly Call; devoted to the interests of the public library of this city," published by A. B. Eads at 411 North Main street, in 1880, containing an article by Mr. E. M. Prince, written from data furnished by the late Mrs. Hoover, which gives the following account of the first library movement in McLean county: "The founders of Bloomington were far-sighted and intelligent. They early established a free library called the McLean County Library, some of whose books are now in the Bloomington Library. This was about the year 1840. Dr. Henry, Dr. W. C. Hobbs, James Allin, Jesse Fell and others were especially active in the enterprise.

"About one thousand volumes were purchased in Philadelphia and brought to Bloomington, then a small village of a few hundred inhabitants. It was a splendid start for a library and if it had been properly cared for, would have grown into a large and flourishing institution. But its chief management fell into the hands of Dr. W. C. Hobbs, one of the best and kindest of men in the world, but destitute of all business ability. He let subscribers keep books out as long as they pleased, return them as they pleased, or not at all, and could not bear to fine any one for keeping books over time. The consequence was that the books got scattered, and in a few years it collapsed simply through bad business management."

A few of these books are now upon the shelves of the Withers Library. As shown by the book-plates in the volumes, the title of the institution was the "Bloomington and McLean County Library Company."

Nothing can be gathered as to its rules, or the class of books which it comprised, and but one or two of the residents of Bloom-



WITHERS PUBLIC LIBRARY, BLOOMINGTON.

ington at that date can give any information regarding this library of long ago.

Mrs. Virginia Graves states that it was kept in the same building with, and in a room adjoining the school kept by Dr. Hobbs, on South Main street, and was open for circulation only upon Saturday afternoons. Mrs. Graves says that she, being then but a young girl, was not considered eligible to its privileges, and it was only through persistent asking that she was finally allowed to draw books, and this favor was given only on condition that she read nothing except historical and other instructive works. With a girl's love of romance, however, she did occasionally contrive to secure a novel, which she read on the sly. She has a vivid recollection of "Cœlebs in Search of a Wife," the first novel she ever perused.

Mrs. Graves' memory of this library is that it was a much smaller collection than is stated in the article by Mr. Prince, as it was contained upon a few shelves in a small room. However that may be, the fact that this library was purchased, started and carried on for some time, remains to testify to the love of learning and the desire for a wider culture by the early residents of our city.

In the federal census of 1850, McLean county is credited with a public library which was undoubtedly this one, though the number of volumes is there given as but three hundred. Illinois then had thirty-three public libraries with a total of thirty-six thousand volumes.

In the same census McLean county is credited with four Sunday school libraries containing a total of eight hundred books. That of the First Presbyterian Sunday school was probably the first collection of books brought to McLean county, which could be dignified by the title of a library. This was brought by Amasa C. Washburn in 1833.

Mr. Burnham in his history of Bloomington and Normal quotes Mr. Washburn as saying: "I went east in the spring of 1833; when I returned I brought out a second-hand library, and the books were read with avidity. One bright-eyed little girl took a book and on returning it was asked if she had read it through. She replied, "Oh, yes, I read it through a *heap* of times."

The Bloomington and McLean County Library seems to have been completely lost sight of before 1850. The files of the papers

from that time contain no mention of a library, until the issue of the Intelligencer of June 29, 1853, in which appears a call to all young men "favorable to the establishment of a young men's reading room in Bloomington," to meet in the basement of the M. E. church on the evening of that day. This conference was apparently adjourned without accomplishing its object, for we find an urgent request in the same paper on July 6, 1853, for a full attendance of the friends of the public, on the following Saturday, for the same purpose. It is to be presumed that this effort was unsuccessful, as there is no further reference to the project until May 24, 1854, when the matter was prominently brought to the attention of the public by an article in the Weekly Pantagraph signed G. L. K., which is here reproduced.

"Another object of no ordinary importance to the inhabitants of Bloomington would be a library or reading room—a thing which needs but an effort to obtain it. Two or three hundred dollars to begin with might be raised, I think, without much difficulty; for a library or reading room would pay its rent by a small tax upon each individual. This would be far preferable, I think—spending the money in gaining information, and the leisure hours in reading instead of loitering away both time and money about the stores, saloons and nine-pin alleys.

"Such a change as this would undoubtedly cultivate a love for literature, and bring many a reckless youth back to habits of industry."

This presentation of the needs of the town in this direction seems to have had an effect upon the mothers and daughters of Bloomington, for the women soon became interested in the formation of a library and to them is due the credit for the successful establishment of the enterprise.

Miss Rebecca Rogers, later Mrs. George W. Parke; Miss Juliet Gridley, Miss Hannah Snow and other ladies made an active canvass of the town and to their persistent and untiring efforts we are indebted for the institution which formed the nucleus from which has grown our present valuable city library.

After considerable preparatory work, these ladies called a public meeting at Major's Hall on October 2, 1856, for the purpose of effecting a permanent organization. At this meeting, which was

well attended, subscriptions amounting to $417 were reported, and a committee, consisting of Rev. F. N. Ewing, Dr. W. C. Hobbs, David Davis, W. H. Allin and John McClun, was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws, and on November 13 the Ladies' Library Association was formally organized at the First Presbyterian church.

By donations of books and the sale of memberships, about five hundred volumes were collected, and the library was opened to the public February 28, 1857, in a room on Center street, but at the next meeting of the Board, Judge Davis having offered free of rent a room in the third story of his building at the southwest corner of Front and Main streets, it was removed to that location; remaining there until about 1865, when it was removed to the second floor of 403 North Main street, over what is now Stautz's market. Here it was kept until 1871, when it was transferred to the hall over B. F. Hoopes' commission house, remaining there until 1887, when it took possession of its permanent home in the new Withers Library building.

The first record reads: "The undersigned, desirous to promote the diffusion of knowledge in our community by the purchase and distribution of good and useful books do hereby form ourselves into an association for such purpose." This is followed by the adoption of a constitution and by-laws and the election of permanent officers, as follows:

President, Mrs. S. B. Brown; vice-president, Miss A. Warriner; secretary, Miss H. Caldwell; corresponding secretary, Miss H. Parsons; treasurer, Miss Rebecca A. Rogers; librarian, Miss Hannah M. Snow. The first Board of Managers were: Mrs. David Davis, Mrs. F. N. Ewing, Mrs. T. Pardee, Mrs. Hamilton Spencer, and Mrs. W. H. Allin.

Five dollars and the payment of an annual tax of fifty cents constituted membership in the association. All members and any other citizen paying one dollar and a half annually were entitled to the privileges of the library, but only members of the association were entitled to vote at the annual meeting.

The first printed catalogue of the library, a pamphlet of twenty-nine pages, was published in 1864. We find from this that the official board was as follows:

President, Mrs. J. H. Robinson; vice-president, Mrs. L. W. Betts; secretary, Mrs. J. N. Ward; treasurer, Mrs. George W. Parke. Board of Directors: Mrs. David Davis, Mrs. W. H. Allin, Mrs. J. E. McClun, Mrs. Allin Withers, and Mrs. Theron Pardee.

In this catalogue, the statement is made that "Through the liberality of our citizens the association has been enabled to make additions to the original five hundred volumes, increasing the number to nearly fourteen hundred."

The first librarian, Miss Hannah Snow, was a lady of much culture, who conducted the affairs of the library with success until 1865, when by her removal from the city, the position became vacant and Miss S. A. Walton was chosen as her successor.

Miss Snow is well remembered by many residents of this city, who were boys and girls in the early sixties, as a teacher of ability, under whose care they started on the road to learning.

Miss Walton was also a teacher in the schools of Bloomington, and she, too, is very pleasantly remembered by many in the town. She held the position but one year, when she removed from the place, and was succeeded by Mrs. Maria Everly who also resigned at the end of the year, in 1867, and Mrs. Hannah Rebecca Galliner was made librarian and was unanimously re-elected year after year from that time until 1895, when by reason of failure of health, she was compelled to retire from the work in which she so delighted, and to the success of which her unfailing courtesy, untiring industry, rare executive ability, and thorough knowledge of the library had largely contributed.

During the fall and winter of 1866-67, the Ladies' Library Association arranged a course of lectures by eminent men and women, and Anna Dickinson, Fred Douglass, Wendell Phillips, Carl Schurz, J. S. C. Abbott, Theodore Tilton, Prof. J. D. Butler and the blind chaplain of Congress, Rev. W. H. Milburn, appeared before the Bloomington public. From some old accounts, it appears that Mrs. Everly, the librarian, and Mrs. W. M. Hatch were in charge of the arrangements, and were assisted by W. M. Hatch. The lectures were given in Royce Hall and were financially and otherwise, very successful. This seems to have been the first course of lectures given by any public organization in Bloomington, and if so, to the Library Association may be accorded the credit of introducing so profitable and instructive a form of entertainment.

SARAH WALKER DAVIS.

(Mrs. David Davis.)

In 1867 it was considered to be for the best interests of the library to obtain a charter from the legislature; which was granted February 23, and the name was changed to the Bloomington Library Association. Heretofore, none but ladies had been admitted to the management, but under the re-organization, this restriction was removed and the first official board, under the new rules, elected March 2, 1867, was composed as follows:

President, Judge David Davis; vice-president, E. M. Prince; recording secretary, Sarah D. Robinson; corresponding secretary, Dr. W. H. Stennett; treasurer, W. M. Hatch; librarian, Mrs. H. R. Galliner. Board of Managers: Mrs. Maria Everly, B. F. Hoopes, I. J. Bloomfield, and Mrs. J. A. Jackman. Trustees: John Magoon, George W. Parke, John M. Scott.

Reading room privileges were made free to all. A fee of $2.00 secured an annual ticket entitling the holder to the privilege of taking books from the room. The payment of fifty dollars constituted life membership in the Association, and entitled one to the use of the library, and a voice in the election of the management.

The payment of ten dollars, and an assessment of one dollar and a half yearly, constituted a voting membership, with all the rights and privileges of life members. Memberships and annual dues formed the only source of revenue, except that derived from occasional entertainments, and donations from interested friends. The life of the Association was one of struggles, requiring great sacrifice and energy on the part of its managers to keep the treasury replenished with funds, and the income, as can readily be seen, was irregular and uncertain.

The Board in January, 1868, published a list of books, the second catalogue, the first being the one published in 1864 by the Ladies' Library Association. This second catalogue was a pamphlet of fifty-two pages, containing a complete finding list of the contents of the library at this time. A supplement to this was published February, 1870, containing twenty-seven pages. These various lists are extremely interesting as showing the resources of the library at this time.

About this time the library was opened every week day afternoon from one until five o'clock, and on Saturdays until nine o'clock, and a cordial invitation extended to every person whether

a member of the Association or not, to come and read, free of charge, any work upon the shelves.

During the winter of 1867-68 the Library Association again entered the amusement field, conducting a course of eleven lectures given by some of the most eminent men and women then before the public. Under the able management of Dr. W. H. Stennett, corresponding secretary of the Association, and chairman of the lecture committee, and with the aid of the other members of the committee, Peter Folsom and B. F. Hoopes, these entertainments were a great success financially and otherwise. These lectures were given in Phoenix Hall and in Schroeder's Opera House, then a new building. The following lecturers and subjects were presented:

Hon. Charles Sumner—"Are We a Nation?"

George Alfred Townsend—"The Lands to the North of Us."

Rev. Robert Collyer—"The Human Life of Washington."

Paul Du Chaillu—"The Gorilla; Adventures in Equatorial Africa," illustrated by a cabinet of specimens collected by Mr. Du Chaillu, and by charts and drawings.

John B. Gough, in one of his inimitable temperance lectures.

Anna E. Dickinson—"Idiots and Women."

Rev. J. H. Milburn—"John Milton."

Hon. Henry Vincent, the great English reformer and member of Parliament—"Some People I Have Known."

Petroleum B. Nasby—"Cursed Be Canaan."

Nathan Sheppard—"The Humor and Pathos of Human Life."

Fred Douglass—"Self-Made Men."

During the following winter season of 1868-69, a similar course was conducted with equally successful results.

December, 1868, Dr. Stennett resigned as corresponding secretary, because of removal from the city, and Mr. E. M. Prince succeeded him. The Board publicly returned to Dr. Stennett their most earnest thanks for his intelligent and untiring services during his occupancy of the office. Mr. Prince resigned the office of president to take the post of corresponding secretary—as he was so eminently fitted for this post, that it was the wish of the entire Board that he take the place. Mr. Franklin Price took the vacant presidency for the remainder of the year. During the winter of 1869-70 a third and final lecture course was carried on under the

management of the corresponding secretary as chairman of the lecture committee. This course was also successful, but being somewhat interfered with by the prevailing hard times of that winter, did not add greatly to the finances of the library.

After this winter, no more lectures were arranged for, this form of entertainment proving very uncertain as to profits; but during the winter and spring of 1871-72, a number of entertainments were given by home talent which were of high character and proving very popular, brought into the treasury very considerable sums of money. From a collection of programs, a few of the most interesting are noted.

Perhaps the most entertaining was one given by the Bloomington Bar at Schroeder's Opera House, April 11, 1872, entitled "Bardell vs. Pickwick," presenting the trial scene from "Pickwick." The leading roles were taken by Adlai E. Stevenson as "Justice Starleigh," Thomas McNulta as "Sergeant Buz-fuz," and Hon. J. G. Strong as "Pickwick." Other well-known members of the legal profession whose names appear in the cast were R. E. Williams, Lawrence Weldon, James S. Ewing, E. M. Prince, C. L. Capen, Hudson Burr, C. G. Bradshaw, Charles Shackleford, W. B. Carlock, H. A. Ewing, Gen. I. J. Bloomfield and Gen. A. Gridley; with Mrs. R. P. Morgan, jr., Mrs. C. Shackleford and Mrs. Stephen Smith as "Mrs. Bardell" and her friends.

A tableau: The execution of Mary, queen of Scots, was also presented by several of these gentlemen, with the aid of Miss Ella Rutzer, as the queen of Scots, with Miss Hattie Boyd and Miss Fannie Walker as attendants. This program is of especial interest as containing the names of several distinguished fellow citizens who have since that time filled some of the highest offices in the gift of the country. One has been vice-president, another foreign minister at one of the most important European courts, another is judge of the United States Court of Claims at Washington. The rest attained high position in their chosen profession either in this or in other cities. Some have passed from our ken, but their memory still abides with us.

On the evenings of December 12 and 13, 1872, took place the opening of the new theater, Durley Hall, with a benefit for the library. The trial scene from the "Merchant of Venice" was given by a company of amateurs with J. A. Jackman as the "Duke of

Venice," Pres. Richard Edwards as "Shylock," Dr. J. A. Sewell as "Antonio," C. L. Capen as "Bassanio," C. A. Hasenwinkle as "Gratiano," J. A. Jackman, jr., as "Solanio," M. Williams as "Salarino," Miss Ella Hogg as "Portia" and Mrs. Laura B. Humphreys as "Nerissa." This was followed by a farce entitled "Love in Livery" with J. Price Fell, D. M. Graham, C. A. Hasenwinkle, Charles Coe, Mrs. Gus Maxwell, Miss Annie Fell, Miss Dodson and Miss Rowe as the actors.

In November, 1873, and again in September, 1875, the "Drummer-Boy of Shiloh" was given by about one hundred ladies and gentlemen of the best amateur talent of Bloomington and Normal. On both occasions with Mr. C. A. Hasenwinkle in the leading part of "Farmer Howard" and Master Howard Humphreys as the "Drummer-Boy." Mr. Hasenwinkle is now known as Carl Haswin, the noted actor, whose presentation of "The Silver King" has won him fame. He was at this time a student at the Illinois Wesleyan University—always willing to lend his talents to any benefit for the library.

During the next four years the managers of the Association were almost constantly before the public as purveyors to the people's taste for entertainment, and every known form of amusement was worked up and presented. Bloomington has possessed many talented people and no one ever thought of refusing to aid the library in the way best suited to individual talents. It is impossible to mention the names of even a small minority of these, but the sweet voices of many beautiful singers still live in the memory of those who heard their melody.

The baby show held the last week of May, 1883, was a source of much amusement to the public, and of some heart-burning to proud mammas of infant marvels, besides netting a considerable sum for the library's treasury. Young men and maidens of today, who were then wee tots, might find the newspaper files of that date very interesting.

A roster of the people who kindly aided in the many entertainments given for the library, either as promoters or as active participants in the benefits, would fill several pages, and is now impossible to gather. The late Mrs. Laura B. Humphreys, Mrs. Ward, Mrs. A. B. Funk, Mrs. Snell, Mrs. W. L. Evans, Mrs. Hoopes, Mrs. Jackman, Miss S. E. Raymond, Miss Georgiana

Trotter, Mrs. J. H. Burnham, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. C. P. Soper, Mrs. L. M. Graham, Mrs. J. W. Fifer, Mrs. Helen S. Humphreys, Mrs. N. P. Perry and many others were most devoted and efficient in arranging and carrying out the details of these affairs.

Among the most prominent participants during the years of struggle, aside from those already mentioned, might be named Marie Von Elsner, Belle Rood, Ella Hogg, Mrs. H. O. Davis and Grace Fell Hersey, who have passed from earth to join the choirs of Heaven; Miss Manie Dodson, now Mrs. Theron Fell; Miss Charlotte Burr, now Mrs. W. S. Harwood; Miss Slade, Miss Blaylock.

In March, 1880, public entertainments being no longer popular or profitable, and the expenses having increased greatly with the growth of the library, it was thought best to ask the city to take charge of the institution as a free public library, and at a largely attended meeting of the Association, it was formally resolved to transfer the library to the city. A committee of six, consisting of Hamilton Spencer, E. M. Prince, W. M. Hatch, R. M. Benjamin, C. L. Capen and Miss Raymond was appointed to present the matter to the city council. At the council meeting following, the offer was declined, the committee to whom it was referred considering it inadvisable at that time to add to the burdens of taxation in the city, even for so meritorious a purpose.

The disappointment of the friends of the measure was great and the prospect for a time was very dark. After much discussion, it was finally decided to close the doors of the library until funds should be forthcoming to assure adequate support, and on August 7, 1880, this was done. Not until this action of the Board did the people realize how intimately connected with their daily life was this institution. Immediately a subscription of $1,100 was made, with which the debts of the library were paid, new books purchased, and in September, the library was again opened to the public after being closed for six weeks.

But still the question of support faced the management, a most pressing want being proper rooms for the library. The collection of books, constantly growing more valuable, was housed in a building, where the risks from fire were great. The available room was not nearly large enough for the comfortable arrangement of books which occupied every niche and table which could be spared. In May, 1882, Mrs. Sarah B. Withers presented

to the Association the site at the corner of East and Washington streets, upon which to erect a new building. This was the location of Mrs. Withers' first home in Bloomington. Here, in years gone by, Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas, Leonard Swett and many other notables had been entertained. This generous gift coming when the future looked dark for the enterprise, put new life into the management, and soon after the formal transfer of the property in July, 1883, the work of soliciting funds for the new building was begun by Miss Sarah E. Raymond, Miss Georgiana Trotter, Mrs. J. N. Ward, Mr. C. L. Capen, and others.

The citizens of the town met the soliciting committee with rare courtesy, and substantial evidence of their interest in the shape of liberal donations, by means of which, with the money raised by entertainments, suppers and in other ways, sufficient funds were collected to warrant the commencement of a building, and in August, 1886, the Board voted to erect a two-story brick building. Plans and specifications, as presented by Architect George Miller, were adopted and the ground was broken the last of March, 1887.

The building committee to whom was intrusted the supervision of the construction, was composed of Miss Georgiana Trotter, chairman; Miss Sarah E. Raymond, E. M. Prince, W. A. Gerken and George A. Tryner. Thursday, May 19, 1887, the corner-stone was laid with appropriate Masonic ceremonies, in the presence of several thousand people. Dr. A. T. Darrah, the Grand Master of Masons of Illinois, officiated, using the Masonic ritual in a very impressive manner—Mrs. Withers handing the trowel with which the cement was spread. Music was furnished by DeMolay band and the Schubert quartette. After the stone had been laid, an address was given by Rev. H. W. Thomas of Chicago, which was full of rare thought and deeply impressive.

When the building was christened, it was called the Withers Library, thus carrying down to posterity the memory of a pioneer of Bloomington whose courage, honorable life, enterprise and worth were known to all while he lived, and were a rich legacy to his widow, by whose generous act was made possible this beautiful home for the library.

The building was completed in December, 1887, and on the 27th was held the dedicatory service, in connection with a grand

banquet. Dr. Richard Edwards, Superintendent of Public Instruction of the state of Illinois, delivered the address. Dr. John W. Dinsmore, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Bloomington, conducted devotional exercises; and excellent music helped to make the occasion still more pleasant. Miss Sarah E. Raymond, president of the Association, presented a brief and concise statement of the cost of the building, and the present needs to liquidate the indebtedness. Her appeal met a generous response and handsome donations were made towards clearing the debt remaining upon the building.

The books and furniture of the Library Association having been placed in position in the new building, its doors were thrown open to the public early in January, 1888, and under the impetus given by the public interest in the new quarters, the receipts of the library during the few years following proved sufficient to pay current running expenses; but there was practically nothing for the purchase of books. To meet this demand, a book fund was started and a committee formed to solicit subscriptions and at the annual meeting of 1889, this committee reported that the amounts pledged would enable the management to make much needed additions to the book list.

To this committee of ladies, Mrs A. B. Funk, Mrs. J. T. Snell and Mrs. George A. Tryner, much was due. Miss Slade's French class aided in this fund by the presentation of a French play, the proceeds of which were turned over to the committee. Still the burden of supporting the institution oppressed the managers and faithful friends were constantly planning ways and means of aiding to swell the slender funds of the library.

The most notable effort of this period was the book reception of March 7, 1891, which added over six hundred volumes to the library's collection and placed a goodly sum of money in the treasury, besides gifts of valuable pictures from many friends; an especial one being the fine life-size portrait of Mrs. Sarah B. Withers painted and presented by Mrs. A. E. Ticknor.

The success of this reception was largely due to the efforts of Mrs. J. N. Ward, a life long friend and member of the association, and to Mrs. J. H. Burnham Mrs. A. B. Funk, Mrs. Basil Duke, Mrs. J. T. Snell and Mrs. I. N. Wright, committee on program and solicitation.

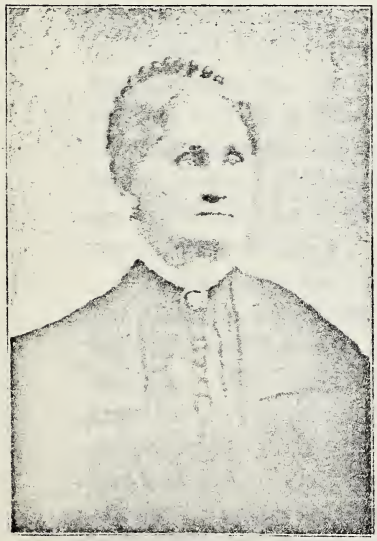
To quote from the annual report of the president, Mrs. Sue A. Sanders in 1895: "While the enthusiasm of so rare an enterprise was foremost in the hearts of the people, patronage and donations for its support were such as reflect great credit upon the good people of Bloomington; yet year after year did not find all sufficient to meet the demands of a circulating library in a city unusually noted for its institutions of learning, its number of citizens who have held state and national positions of trust and honor, and the general intelligence of her people. As the property of a corporation accessible to none except those who were able to pay dues, there never was at any one time more than four hundred people who thus contributed to its support; hence the people, almost as a whole, were deprived of its privileges, and the strongest regrets were for the poor people of the city, especially the children, who should have had an opportunity to avail themselves of its advantages. Through eight long years of giving entertainments and soliciting to meet the necessary demands, the Board ever hoped the time might come when the library would be the property of the city, and like all other public institutions, be ably supported in accordance with the demands of our citizens."

In consequence of the unanimous vote of the management and stockholders at the annual meeting in March, 1894, on the evening of May 18, of that year, the trustees of the Bloomington Library Association appeared before the common council and formally tendered, through that honorable body, to the city of Bloomington, the Withers Library building, together with all its possessions, asking only as remuneration that the city assume the indebtedness of about $4,000 and establish a free public library. No more needed or noble offering was ever tendered a city and no city council ever responded more courteously or magnanimously than Bloomington city council of 1894.

Having accepted this liberal donation to the city's possessions, all transfers being legally signed and filed in accordance with the statute, a Board of Directors was appointed by the city council to take charge of the same. The members of this board were: H. D. Spencer, S. P. Robinson, J. M. Shackford, R. O. Graham, B. F. Hoopes, J. F. Regan, J. B. Holmes, Mrs. A. B. Funk and Mrs. Sue A. Sanders.

MRS. MARTHA WARD.

MRS. VIRGINIA HAYDEN GRAVES.



MRS. JUDITH A. BRADNER.

MRS. ELIZA STANSBURY.

The Bloomington Library Association, while retiring from the management of the library, did not surrender its charter, and still remains an incorporated body.

July 1, 1894, the library was closed for cataloguing and repairs and remained closed until October 2 of the same year, when for the first time in the history of the city were the doors of a free public library thrown open, and never until now were the full demands of our reading public made known. Anxiously they had waited the time of opening and the eagerness and promptness with which they availed themselves of its privileges showed the value of the institution.

Just at the dawn of long hoped for prosperity, Mrs. H. R. Galliner, who for more than a quarter of a century had held the office of librarian, was stricken with illness and was granted leave of absence that she might rally her failing powers—but continuing to decline, she found it imperative to tender her resignation, which was accepted with strong regret and her name placed upon the library's roll of honor as Librarian Emeritus. Her inability to avail herself of her long cherished desire to serve in the capacity of librarian of Bloomington Public Library, reminds us of that one who was allowed to view but never to enter the Promised Land. The wished for health and strength never returned, and she steadily declined until October 19, 1897, when her eyes closed upon earthly scenes and she fell asleep to awaken in another world, and was laid to rest in Bloomington's beautiful "God's acre" October 21, amid the tears of sorrowing friends. She was peculiarly fitted for her position of librarian, having such a wonderful memory that she practically knew the contents of every book, and being in every branch of the work very efficient.

To no one in its history is the library more indebted than to Mrs. Galliner, who never faltered nor acknowledged weariness, but faithfully fulfilled every duty of her office, both in prosperity and adversity. The library as it is today is in large measure an outgrowth of her untiring service and enthusiasm in helping establish and maintain it through its first years of uncertainty. In her labors and in her beautiful character the people of this city came to love her to a very unusual degree and her life's work and influence in the city has reared for her a greater monument than any cut from stone. A bronze tablet placed upon the wall of the reading

room in the library by the clubs of the city bears silent witness to her worth and to the affection her friends bore her.

No more truly could "She hath done what she could" be said of any than of this brave soul, who felt so keenly her later hours of weakness and enforced idleness. A little poem by Mrs. Gussie Packard Du Bois expresses truly this thought:

How true of one so spendthrift in service,
So eager to bring to us all of life's good;
We look through our tears at the hands at last folded
And gratefully say "She hath done what she could."

How strong in adversity's storm and how dauntless
How tender in sorrow the deep loving heart;
How brave in life's battles, how true in life's changes,
She hath done what she could, the rest is God's part.

We must loosen our hold, the dear hands are tired,
Unclasp them and fold them across the still breast;
These words shall be spoken in tender memorial,
She hath done what she could, she hath gone to her rest.

Mrs. Galliner's successor, Miss Evva L. Moore of Evanston, Illinois, served as acting librarian until June 1, 1895, and as librarian-in-chief from that date until June 1, 1899, when she resigned to take charge of the Scoville Institute Library of Oak Park, Illinois. She was succeeded by Miss Elma Warwick, a graduate of Illinois State Library School at Champaign, who remained but two months, resigning August 1, to become librarian at the DeKalb Normal School.

Miss Nellie E. Parham, also a graduate of the school at Champaign, took charge October 1, 1899. During Miss Moore's administration, the building was enlarged to its present proportions; the building as enlarged and newly equipped being opened on the evening of May 15, 1898, with a reception to the Mayor and city council and citizens of Bloomington. In this portion of the building are located the reference rooms and work rooms, also the children's department, an innovation planned and carried out by Miss Nellie E. Parham, the present librarian. This much needed department has proven very popular, not only with the children, but with the parents.

The following ladies and gentlemen have filled the office of president since the organization of the Ladies' Library in 1856, to the present time:

Mrs. S. B. Brown	1856	Richard H. Holder	1872
Mrs. David Davis	1857	Peter Folsom	1877
Mrs. W. H. Allin	1858	Dr. C. R. Parke	1878
Mrs. John McClun	1859	Charles L. Capen	1881
Mrs. Elihu Rogers	1860	Miss S. E. Raymond	1882
Mrs. J. N. Ward	1861	Charles L. Capen	1885
Mrs. Allin Withers	1862	Miss S. E. Raymond	1887-1894
Mrs. J. H. Robinson	1863	Miss Sue A. Sanders	1894-1896
Mrs. Lyman Betts	1864	Mrs. A. B. Funk	1897
Mrs. Charles Cromwell	1865	R. O. Graham	1898
Judge David Davis	1866	Henry D. Spencer	1899
E. M. Prince	1868	J. M. Shackford	1900
George W. Parke	1869	J. B. Holmes	1901-1902

Five of the first board appointed by the Mayor and city council still are serving, being J. B. Holmes, H. D. Spencer, R. O. Graham, Mrs. A. B. Funk and Mrs. Sue A. Sanders. Of the others, John H. Regan, a man of sound judgment and good business qualifications, died in 1898, and was succeeded by Dr. Fenelon, who served one year, being in turn succeeded by John J. Condon, a member of the present board.

Mr. B. F. Hoopes, who had been one of the Board of Management since the organization of the Library Association in 1867, withdrew in 1899. To his business ability and public spirit the library is greatly indebted. The successors of Mr. Hoopes and of S. P. Robinson were Mr. E. D. Harber and Mr. C. F. Webb. Mr. J. M. Shackford removed to Chicago in 1901 and was succeeded by Isaac Livingston. These gentlemen have spared no time nor trouble to advance the best interests of the library, and to their efforts, in conjunction with the able librarians they have put at the head of the institution, is due the prosperity of the Withers Public Library since its organization as a free public library.

March 1, 1894, the library contained a total of 13,377 books, with 214 book-takers. The total circulation for the year ending at this date was 11,640. At present the library contains 27,000 books, and the number of borrowers has reached over 6,000. In the eighth annual report, given June 8, 1901, the circulation for the year is given as 97,953, a large increase over any preceding year. A new catalogue has been issued, a goodly sized volume of 364 pages, which is a reliable guide to the books upon the shelves.

The reference department of the library is installed in two rooms in the northeast corner of the building. This is under the

care of Mrs. C. F. Kimball, reference librarian. Here the student and the club member find a quiet place where they can collect from the books held entirely for the use of this department, material for themes, orations, debates and papers on all sorts of subjects from "the lost arts" to the present day "flying machines." The collection of reference works and bound magazines is large, comprising the latest and best and would do credit to a much larger library.

The support of the library is entirely by taxation, a sum not to exceed two mills on a dollar, being appropriated each year by the council. To this is added the rent of the rooms occupied by the Bloomington Club, on the second floor of the building, and sums collected from fines and rentals of books.

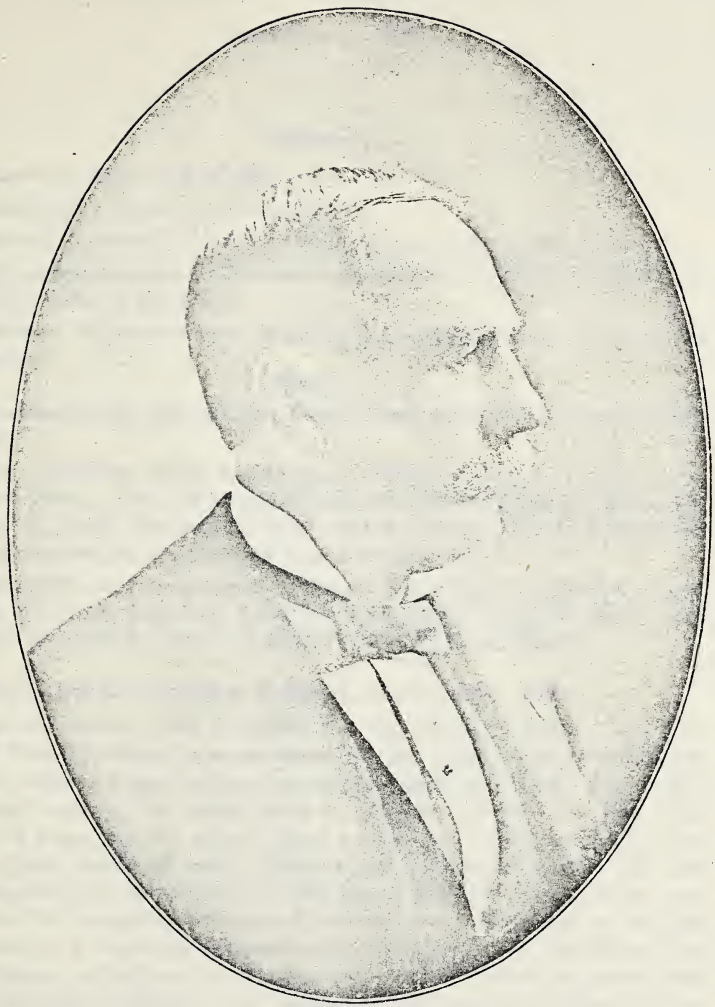
Besides Miss Parham, librarian, and Mrs. Kimball, reference librarian, there are employed as assistants, the Misses Mabel Ward, Nelle F. Webb, Sarah Stowell, Edith Denison and Alma Lange.

The Withers Public Library has become a very important factor in the moral and educational advancement of our community, thus realizing the hopes and expectations of the founders, to whom is due much of the credit for the grand success of the institution. By their self sacrificing labors and perseverance in keeping the library before the public, and their hard work to enable it to become a creditable institution and to build it up, they made possible all that has resulted. How true it is that one labors and another reaps the harvest; yet to the first is credit due, as well as to the one who carries the work to a successful completion.

Many other details can be found in the scrap-books kept at the library. The following persons have served on the various library boards, in addition to those already mentioned:

R. F. Evans, Mrs. Horace Smith, W. L. Pillsbury, Luman Burr, H. G. Reeves, B. D. Lucas, C. C. Marquis, C. W. Robinson, Capt. F. J. Fitzwilliam, J. H. Burnham, Dr. J. B. Taylor, R. E. Williams, jr., T. A. Braley, James Shaw.

Many names of donors of gifts and of those who have furnished timely aid are necessarily omitted for lack of room. The records and scrap-books already alluded to will give much added information.



CAPT. FRANK J. FITZWILLIAM.

THE McLEAN MEMORIAL.

December 6, 1898.

PROGRAM.

Prayer, by Richard Edwards.

Introductory, by George Perrin Davis.

Address, on behalf of Board of Supervisors, by LaFayette Funk.

Public Services of John McLean, a memorial on behalf of the Historical Society, by John H. Burnham.

Address: "Reminiscences of John McLean," by Gen. John A. McClernand.

OFFICERS.

President of the Day, George Perrin Davis, president of the Historical Society.

Vice-presidents: H. D. Ledgerwood, chairman Board of Supervisors; Sylvester Peasley, Peter Whitmer, Charles C. Rowell, William J. Baldridge, Duncan M. Funk, Arthur J. Scrogin, James Smith, William T. Bradbury, James Thompson, ex-chairmen of Board of Supervisors.

Committee of Arrangements: Marion McCormick, William C. Jones, John G. Welch, on behalf of Board of Supervisors; George P. Davis, John H. Burnham, Ezra M. Prince, on behalf of the Historical Society.

From the Bloomington Bulletin, December 6, 1898:

McLean county paid a tribute to her namesake today. The Historical Society, voicing the sentiment of the whole people, recalled the days of Senator John McLean, one of the brightest minds of the early territorial days of the great state of Illinois. McLean has been dead nearly 70 years, but his memory lives on and will be forever perpetuated by the great county of central Illinois which bears his name. The idea of a memorial to the memory of this great Illinoisan was a happy one, and from its inception widespread interest has been taken in carrying the event to a successful consummation. Captain J. H. Burnham, Hon. E. M. Prince, and others have been untiring in their efforts to secure data of the illustrious politician and statesman but have been baffled by a remarkable lack of information in the newspapers and records of those days. For instance, the Vandalia paper, published at the time of McLean's death, does not refer to it. The *Congressional Record* has but little relative to his life, and there is a singular lack of matter relative to the life of the county's namesake. The tablet erected by the Society in the

court house to the memory of McLean has been described in previous issues. Captain Burnham has been most active in the search for data. He has visited Shawneetown, the home of McLean, and interviewed old citizens. He has pored over the newspaper files, county records, and every other avenue that might furnish the coveted information. His efforts are embodied in the able paper which he delivered at the meeting this afternoon and which we present in full. It was hoped to have General John A. McClernand present at the meeting but the infirmities of age prevented him leaving his home in Springfield. He had been asked to furnish some reminiscences of McLean and his remarks would have been most interesting. The Society succeeded in securing the consent of Hon. J. S. Ewing to read the notes of General McClernand and also to add observations of his own.

The meeting this afternoon was held in the circuit court room, which was turned over to the Society by Judge Myers. The capacity of the room was tested and many citizens from out of the county outside of the city were interested auditors. Mr. George P. Davis, president of the Historical Society, presided over the meeting and opened the proceedings by introducing Dr. Richard Edwards who delivered an eloquent invocation. Mr. Davis then delivered the introductory address, speaking as follows:

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

This day marks the turning of a new leaf in the history of this county.

In the first settlement of a new country the struggle for existence is so great with the people that they have no time or thought for reverence of the beauties of nature or the remains of a former race.

So much of such remains as can be utilized in the construction of their dwellings are so used, and the earthworks are leveled by the plow. The grand old trees are cut down for buildings or firewood. The nearest being taken first.

Perhaps some elm that is worthless for either purpose and is not in the way of civilization is forgotten and left.

The articles of war and chase and household use of the former inhabitants that may be acquired are given to the children for toys. The history of their great men and of their own lives which would be so valuable to us are either not written at all or so scantily recorded as to be a great trial to the accurate historian of this day.

After the country is settled and fully improved the people have more time to devote to things other than a struggle for a

livelihood. Then their minds revert to the duty and pleasure of honoring the memory of their ancestors, and of preserving the remains of such monuments or natural curiosities as may still remain among them.

Then memorials are erected to their early great men. The lines of the old earthworks are traced in the cornfields and by statute they are preserved from further spoliation, and the forgotten elm becomes the pride of the community and when in the fullness of time it falls to the ground, everyone feels the loss of a personal friend and the remains are reverently divided among them for keepsakes.

As was said, this day marks the turning of a new leaf in the history of this county.

This great and wealthy county, almost an empire of itself, now turns its thoughts backward to its origin and feels it but just and right that it should remember its early beginnings.

I am the more proud of the fact because this county is one of the first, if not the first, in this state to assist the Historical Society in their labors.

Of the forthcoming volume of the McLean County Historical Society, which is mainly a war volume, together with a roster of county officers and a synopsis of the proceedings of the board of supervisors during the rebellion, the board has ordered one volume put in each school district. And we have no doubt but that other appropriate volumes will be so placed. In many of the eastern states, especially Massachusetts, the towns, which in that section of the country are the political units, have been authorized and directed to copy, edit, and publish their old town meeting records, many of them going back for more than 270 years. The expense to some of the towns has been as much as $40,000 to $50,000.

This great expense is voluntarily and cheerfully borne and the pride of the towns is to publish the most accurate and fully edited volumes.

Mr. Davis then introduced Hon. LaFayette Funk, who was chosen to represent the board of supervisors. Mr. Davis said:

Of the early settlers, one whose business extended over the greater territory and who was the most successful in accumulating land, and who has left a permanent impression on this community,

was Isaac Funk, an early member of the board of supervisors and for whom the township of Funk's Grove was named.

The board of supervisors thought it but fitting to select one of his most distinguished sons, a state senator, and a member of the state board of agriculture for some years, and now a member of their board, to make the address for them, the Hon. LaFayette Funk; of Funk's Grove, who will now address you on behalf of the board of supervisors.

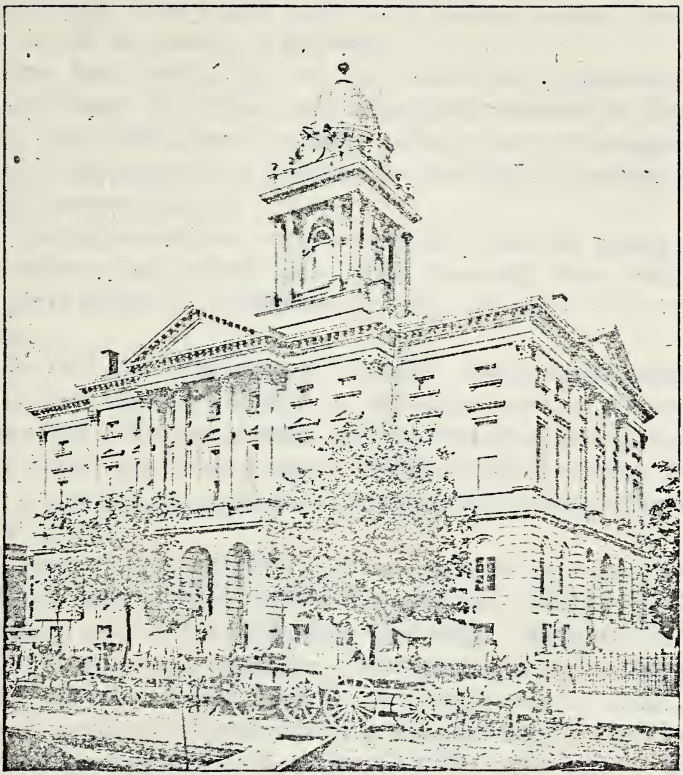
ADDRESS OF HON. LA FAYETTE FUNK.

Mr. President, Pioneers, and Friends: We have met here today, prompted by motives which seldom occur to the people of a county nearly three-quarters of a century after its admission as such by dedicating in public its name to posterity.

During the proceedings of the board of supervisors at its last September meeting some action was taken relative to a communication received from the McLean County Historical Society, making a request that a joint meeting be held with the board at some future time. A special committee was appointed by the chairman of the board to meet with some member or members of the Historical Society and ascertain the object of the meeting and their wishes in the matter, and report back the result of the conference to the board.

The committee's report of the findings at the meeting with the members of the Historical society, was favorable to the joint meeting of the two bodies to take place at this time; and coupled with the report were the suggestions from the committee that the chairman of the board appoint some one of its members to prepare an address on behalf of its members to be read during the proceedings of this occasion.

From some cause, perhaps best known only to himself, the honorable chairman saw fit to appoint the writer to perform that most arduous task, and I am frank to say I believe our chairman made a mistake in the selection of his man, as there are other members of this board, who, for a long number of years, have served their constituents at home and their country at large with ability and distinctive honors, and who, from their long term of public service in the county's interest could have prepared and performed this work more appropriately to this occasion.



The Court House of McLean County Destroyed by Fire June 19, 1900. The McLean Memorial Tablet Was Originally Placed in This Building.

To arrive at something of a definite idea of the subject or theme to be treated of on this occasion, history may have to be repeated to some extent. Through the various and many transitory stages of the county's territorial existence to the present boundary lines, many changes have taken place.

This county, with its present and original territory, has perhaps belonged to and gone under more different names than any other one of the counties of the state.

Our local history tells us that before the organization of McLean county, its territory and inhabitants remained in Fayette county until 1827, though as above stated, prior to this date the names of the several other counties are mentioned as covering this county's present territory.

Tazewell county was organized in 1827, with its county seat at Mackinaw, only twenty miles from Blooming Grove and for four years longer its inhabitants gave their allegiance to Tazewell county.

In 1827 the boundaries of Tazewell county were adjusted and its first election was held at Blooming Grove, at the house of one of the leading inhabitants, William Orendorff, and of the five or six county officers then elected, Blooming Grove secured three. What is now McLean remained as before, divided between Tazewell and Vermilion.

This not only shows that settlers were quite plentiful around the Grove, but that their descendents have come honestly by their willingness to fill all the offices that came handy. Our local history, too familiar to need repetition, shows that soon after Tazewell county had taken a good start, it was thought best to divide the immense territory and after scheming and planning for the organization of new counties, the outcome of the agreement of those it interested, to organize a county out of the following described magnificent district: The south boundary line to be that of the township running east and west four miles south of the present line dividing the counties of DeWitt and McLean, thence north forty-eight miles and a reference to the map will show well toward the north line of the present county of Woodford. The west line to be that of the range line six miles west of the third principal meridian, and that of the east line thirty-six miles, being that of the sixth range line east of the third principal meridian. This terri-

tory lay wholly within the counties of Tazewell and Vermilion, the latter not within the county proper, but lands attached for county purposes.

The original boundaries, as will be seen by the above description, comprised eight townships north and south, and seven ranges east and west, being in extent forty-two by forty-eight miles, in regular form, a perfect rectangle, containing fifty-six townships, each six miles square, or a little over 1,290,000 acres of land in round numbers. This immense extent of territory included the present site of Atlanta, in Logan county, Waynesville and Farmer City, in DeWitt county; considerably over half of the present county of Woodford, almost one-half of the county of Livingston, including the present site of Pontiac, and almost a township of the present county of Piatt. It will be seen by careful examination that the present territory of McLean county, reduced by the later organization of Piatt, DeWitt, Logan, Woodford, and Livingston counties, is approximately four-sevenths of its original territory.

With all due respect to our neighbors and citizens of those counties, which have in their make-up received such a large proportion of McLean county's original tract of land set off or ceded to them, and in the absence of any attempt at the disparagement of their possessions, we still say the average values per acre of the land left within this county's boundary lines were enhanced rather than diminished.

This broad assertion may sound a little egotistical, especially to the residents of our neighboring counties, to impute to them the misfortune that in the divide McLean county, to use a homely phrase, received the cream and they the skimmed milk; but to those of the audience who are well acquainted with the facts it will not be taken with any great amount of surprise.

May we not, at this time—it, if I am not mistaken, being the first attempt to commemorate the county's natal day—look back with profound admiration to the wisdom, forethought, and good work of our honorable committee, Thomas Orendorff and James Latta, who were sent to the state capital, then at Vandalia, in the year 1830, with the requisite number of names petitioning the legislature, then in regular session, that a new county be laid out, and in giving the boundary lines, they did far better than they knew, as the passing of time and subsequent events have shown.

May we not wonder, therefore, that when Blooming Grove's delegation arrived in Vandalia in December, 1830, bearing the petition of our first families for the organization of a new county, embracing such a magnificent collection of well timbered groves, and so many square miles of the richest prairie in the world, it was seen at once that the district in question had immense possibilities and that a large county would some day be found within its new boundary?

At this juncture of the proceedings in the legislature an episode occurred involving the committee and the speaker of the house of representatives, the temper of which may be considered of no small degree of interest incident to the exercises we are holding here today.

The Hon. William L. D. Ewing, the speaker of the house of representatives, a relative and an intimate friend of the late Senator McLean, interested himself actively in influencing our Blooming Grove committee to accord and permit the legislature the privilege of naming the new district in honor of the man whose memory we are commemorating today. Mr. Ewing stated that it was the desire of Mr. McLean's closest and most intimate friends that his name should be given to a large and important county, and at this point in the proceedings, my friends, this great county, which its people feel so justly proud of, was christened with the name it now bears, and we trust will continue to hold till the end of time.

Mr. Ewing was perhaps the best informed as to the value of this region of any man in the legislature, as he had been one of the commissioners appointed in the legislature in 1827 for the organization of Tazewell county, at which time he must have been quite familiar with all the local conditions of this district, besides he had helped to organize other counties in Central Illinois.

If time permitted, we might refer to the services of many of the pioneers of that and later generations who served in thwarting the various attempts to appropriate our territory to the building up of rival counties, but with this passing reference and with our blessing to their memory, we must hasten forward.

The land comprising McLean county, taken as a whole, perhaps cannot for an equal number of acres in one continuous body, be equaled in any country for its fertility of soil, yielding with

comparatively small, or not excessive expense at least, to the husbandman's mode and manner of producing all the cereals, subject to the climatic conditions of this latitude, giving him an abundant remuneration for his time and labor. No better country can be found, all things considered, than right here in Central Illinois for the rearing and maturing to the highest points of finish, all the meat producing animals known to and consumed by man on this continent.

Water, to the rearing and management of live stock of whatever kind or nature, is one of the essential elements, and of this we have an abundant supply, in the way of permanent springs, and streams of pure, clear, running water. The last few years have developed another source of this much needed and indispensable article, by the drilling of tubular wells. This can be done by machinery specially manufactured for the purpose, and underground streams can be reached at no very great amount of expense, that in most instances have proven inexhaustible, of the very best quality of water for domestic and general purposes.

Most excellent groves of fine timber land have by an all-wise Creator been distributed throughout the central and western portions of the county; something unusual too for a prairie country. Some of these groves, too, were made up of the very best of the hard-wood varieties valuable for merchandise and mechanical purposes, and were things of beauty and comfort in their primitive days, but not so with many of them now, for the woodman's ax has made havoc and despoiled them of their beauty until they may almost be considered a barren waste, something we, as ardent admirers and true lovers of good timber, dislike very much to see.

The early pioneers would vie with each other the right to secure for themselves all the timber land they could gobble up, as it was not then known that this entire country was underlaid with vast fields of coal.

In all civilized nations of the world, government and laws of some kind have been established. In our own United States we are governed by the people and for the people by electing to office all our law-making and governing powers from the very highest to the lowest by a vote of the people.

No particular reference to any of them is necessary at this time, though we have arrived at the point in these exercises where

my honorable colleagues may be considered a part and parcel of these ceremonies.

McLean county was organized for the transaction of business May 16, 1831, by the election or appointment of three county commissioners, viz: Timothy B. Hoblit, Jonathan Cheney, and Jesse Havens, all of whom have long since passed from the stage of an active pioneer life to the other shore.

This manner of conducting the county affairs and county business was kept up from year to year by the appointment or election of the commissioners, until November, 1849, when they were superseded by the county court, consisting of the county judge and two associate justices. At the November election of 1857, the question of the system of township organization was voted on. This was a general election, and it was decided the people of the county were willing to adopt the new plan.

In the spring of 1858 the voters of the several newly-organized townships, only twenty-two in number then, now thirty, met and elected a supervisor to represent them at the county seat for the transaction of county business, which system has continued to exist ever since.

Bloomington, by her number of inhabitants, was entitled to one assistant supervisor. It is quite different now.

On the 16th day of May, 1858, the newly elected board of supervisors met in Bloomington and proceeded to organize for the transaction of business, by the election of the Hon. John E. McClun as chairman, and the board proceeded to business.

It may not seem out of place nor inappropriate to make honorable mention of the gentlemen who composed that memorable body, and with your permission I will give their names and the township represented by each of the members.

Mount Hope, Daniel Windsor; Danvers, James Wilson; Dale, Richard Rowell; White Oak, Benjamin F. Rowell; Bloomington, David Simmons and John E. McClun; Normal, William G. Thompson; Savanna, Sylvester Peasley; Towanda, N. S. Sunderland; Gridley, Taylor Loving; Blue Mound, James A. Doyle; Chenoa, J. B. Graham; Pleasant, Ezekiel Arrowsmith; Mosquito Grove, Presley T. Brooks; Funk's Grove, William S. Allin; Dry Grove, Elias Yoder; Randolph, Alfred M. Stringfield; Hudson, James H. Cox; Old Town, Scammon Rodman; Money Creek, William F. Johnson; Lee, Josiah Horr; Lexington, J. C. Mahan; Kickapoo, Henry West.

It will be seen by the above list that only twenty-two townships were represented on the board, as before stated. We know of only four members now living who answered the first roll-call: Presley T. Brooks, Mosquito Grove, now Allin; Sylvester Peasley, Savanna, now Downs; James H. Cox, Hudson, and N. S. Sunderland, Towanda, now living in Kansas.

Bloomington and Normal, by their increased population, are entitled to several assistants, and at the present ratio of increase their membership may become a dangerous element when matters present themselves where the city and country members may not consider the question at issue from the same standpoint.

Few of our citizens realize the magnitude of McLean county's agricultural productions, or its relative rank among other agricultural districts of this country. The census reports of 1870, 1880, and 1890 show that in each of these years, with an annual corn crop amounting to about 11,000,000 bushels, its yield was equal to the combined harvest of six of the Rocky Mountain states, in addition to the product of the six New England states, while it surpassed in this great staple any other single county among the leading counties of all the states of the union. In 1890 its total grain crop as shown by the same authority, was 14,000,000 bushels, and the total value of its agricultural products exceeded $5,000,000. This enormous agricultural total was not exceeded by a single county in the union, with the exception of two or three counties engaged in dairying and market gardening near the largest eastern cities.

McLean county was organized just at the commencement of a new era in the world's history.

In Illinois, the long contest between freedom and slavery had been settled by the exciting contest of 1824, though slaves were actually held in bondage in this state for several years later.

The progress of any people depends largely upon the rapidity of communication. It took the pioneers of McLean county as long to market fifty bushels of wheat in Chicago as it does now P. D. Armour to send a million bushels to Liverpool.

In 1831, this wonderful transformation was just commencing. The first English railroad, only thirty-one miles long, was finished in 1830. At that time there was but ninety-five miles of railroad in the whole United States. The first locomotive constructed in this country for actual service made its first trip January 15, 1831.

Henry and Morse were already experimenting with the electric telegraph. Now by the press we are brought into daily communication with the whole world, and the life of the whole people is immensely enriched and quickened. In 1831, Garrison commenced the publication of the *Liberator* in Boston. Only six years later the first newspaper was published in this county.

But in no department of human activity has there been greater changes than in that of agriculture. The first settlers in this country did not dream this prairie country would ever be settled and become the granary of the world. They supposed they would ever remain great grazing lands, supporting immense herds of cattle.

But about this time they were beginning to see something of the true value and use of the prairie lands, and some large farms, for that period, were beginning to be improved out on the prairie, getting away from the influence of the timber.

Then farming was a comparatively very simple affair, now it has become a complex affair, which will tax the mind of the most vigorous. Already, in 1831, the change had commenced. The first successful mowing machine in this country was patented in 1831. Patents for reaping grain came two years later, and now farm machinery has become so numerous and so complicated that a man must be a capitalist to buy all that is needed on an ordinary farm and be a skilled machinist to care for and operate it.

Coming into being just at the beginning of this great awakening, McLean county has ever been wide awake and foremost, not only in these material things, but all those higher, that go to make up a great people. Its press has been alive, enterprising, and clean; its schools have always borne an enviable reputation. Our common schools have received the constant attention and faithful care of our best citizens, serving without fee or reward, and so honestly have the people been served that I do not know of a single instance where any of the people's money has been lost by defalcation in this county.

The Wesleyan furnishes an admirable college education and the Normal stands in the front rank of schools of that character. Our politicians have been distinguished for ability and integrity and perhaps I might say, for numbers.

Of our professional men, lawyers, doctors, and clergy, perhaps there is no necessity for me to speak, as they are quite able

and perhaps not too modest to magnify their own office, but truth compels me to say that nowhere are there more able, faithful, and devoted men than are to be found among the professional men of this county.

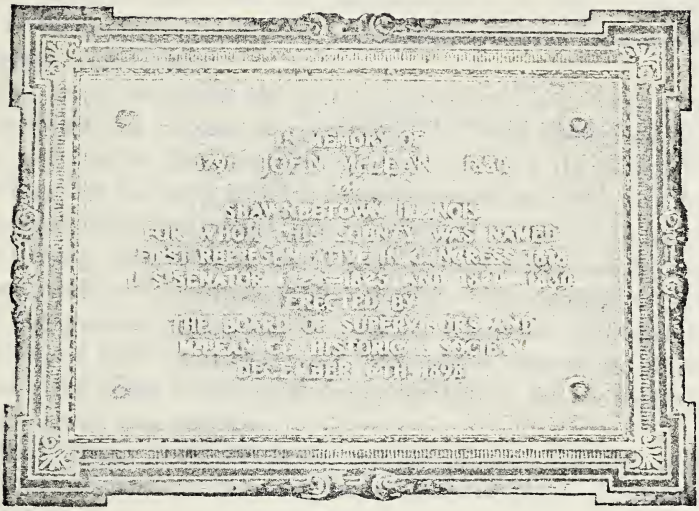
Our charitable institutions are of the very highest character. Our county farm and two hospitals are modern, and our jail receives the praise of every one who visits it. Our churches have kept pace with the other civilizing instruments of the country and within the past ten or fifteen years the value of the church property in this county has probably doubled. When this county was organized the population was about, or perhaps less than 2,000. In 1840 it was 6,565; in 1850 it was 10,163; in 1860, 28,772; in 1870, 53,988; in 1880, 60,100; in 1890, 69,967.

In wealth our progress has been equally marvelous, notwithstanding the war of the rebellion cost this county and its citizens $1,000,000 in bounties paid to fill its quotas and for relief to the soldiers' families, and the enormous amounts bet and lost by our people on the board of trade, mining in the west and other foolish speculations, the county has progressed rapidly and steadily in the accumulation of wealth and the next census will show it to be the richest agricultural county in the state, or, we may say, in the world.

The McLean County Historical Society in the preface to the book they are about to publish, will say, "We doubt if there is any other community of equal numbers where wealth is so equally diffused, where there are so many well-to-do people, so few overly rich, or where there is so little poverty, or so little vice, and so high a grade of intelligence and civic and private virtue, all of which is due quite as much to the early settlers of the county, as to its unrivaled location and physical characteristics."

McLean county's patriotism during the civil war is well shown by the fact that its citizens cheerfully volunteered for the war in great numbers, over 4,000 in all, and its surplus above quotas was the largest of any county in the state, while the brave soldiers in the field were most liberally sustained by the people.

During the late war with Spain, our citizens fully maintained their former patriotic prominence, as was shown by our turning out the largest number of volunteers of any county in the state of Illinois, in proportion to its population. Of course our young men



The McLean Memorial Tablet, Placed in the Court House of McLean County December 6, 1898.

deserve the most credit for this patriotic record, but here again our agricultural prominence went hand in hand with our patriotism, because it was owing to our leading position in the horse raising industry that we were able to take the lead in furnishing cavalrymen for the army. The figures are not at hand to prove it, but it is asserted by some that McLean county furnished to the Spanish-American war in proportion to its population, a larger proportion of volunteers than any other county in the union.

The board of supervisors of this county has been organized forty years, and without boasting, I think I may say that from the first its members have been the representatives of such a people. That in the performance of their duties they have ever been honest, intelligent, and faithful.

The board recognizes the justly appropriate work being done by the Historical Society in preserving the local history of this people and it gives them great pleasure to unite with the Society in dedicating this beautiful tablet to the memory of the noble man for whom this county was named, and in behalf of the board of supervisors I tender its thanks to the McLean County Historical Society for inaugurating the movement that has led to the erection of this tablet, and I also extend our sincere thanks to General McClernand, distinguished alike in military and civil affairs, and whose active life spans the whole history of the state of Illinois, for his share in the exercises of this occasion.

The McLean memorial* tablet was placed upon the south side of the east entrance to the rotunda, on the first floor of the old court house.

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*The memorial tablet referred to was placed on the south wall of the east entrance to the first story of the court house. It was of bronze, 3 feet in height and 4 feet in width. It cost $160 and of this the county paid $125, and the McLean County Historical Society $35. It is considered highly artistic, and the placing of this tablet has given great satisfaction to the public. The tablet was not injured in the great fire of June 19, 1900, and will be given a conspicuous place in the new court house now being erected. It has already become one of the county's most cherished historic memorials, and its value will greatly increase as the years go by.

The Society's Memorial.

The memorial of the McLean County Historical Society to Hon. John McLean, written by Capt. J. H. Burnham,* chairman of the executive committee of the Society was delivered by him as follows:

The Hon. E. B. Washburn, in a sketch prepared for the Chicago Historical Society, says:

"Perhaps less is known at the present day of John McLean than any other public man of his day, who occupied such a distinguished position. His name and memory seems to have almost died out in the state, and it is now practically impossible to gather much of his personal history."

This is an effort to bring together in a reliable shape all of the most important facts of his public and personal history with a view to their preservation for the use of those of our future generations who may be most likely to be interested in their possession.

John McLean was born in North Carolina, February 4, 1791. His father emigrated to Logan county, Kentucky, when his son was four year old, and was able to give him but a limited education. He was a blood relation to the well known Ewing family which originated in Pennsylvania. The famous Thomas Ewing, of Ohio, descended from this stock. A branch of the family emigrated to North Carolina from Pennsylvania, and from these descended the Ewings of Kentucky and of this section. John McLean was related to the Hon. Wm. Lee D. Ewing, one of the early distinguished men of this state, and this gentleman was a second cousin to the father of the Hon. James S. Ewing, of this city, and thus we trace a local relationship to the man whose memory we are honoring today.

It would be interesting could we possess a full genealogy of the McLean family and it is quite probable that future researches will reveal all of the desired information.

McLean county does not carry off all the honors of the family name of McLean, as is shown by the following extract from the history of Hamilton county, Illinois, whose county seat is named

*Authorities consulted: Gov. Reynold's "My Own Times," Moses' History of Illinois, Stuves' History of Illinois, Ford's History of Illinois, Congressional Record, Chicago Historical Society, Vol. III.; Illinois Gazette of Shawneetown.

McLeansboro. "The first house in McLeansboro was a log one built by Dr. William B. McLean, a brother of John McLean of Shawneetown."

The McLean family has been more honored in Illinois than has generally been known in this region, as its local historians have never before been informed of the fraternal relationship existing between McLean county and McLeansboro.

When John McLean was twenty-four years old, having studied law, he emigrated to Shawneetown, Illinois, settling there in 1815, and there he was admitted to the bar in 1816.

Shawneetown was then the commercial and political rival of Kaskaskia, and the two towns were the most important in the territory of Illinois. He at once took a high position at the bar, so high that in 1816, soon after his admission to the bar of the territory, he was appointed to one of the judgeships of its highest court, but he declined the appointment. This declination is quite good evidence that the ambitious young man at that time had very high aims as we find that only two years thereafter, on the admission of Illinois into the union in 1818, he was a candidate for the honorable position of representative to congress.

History informs us that the canvass was one of the most exciting ever known in this state. The great Missouri question was then looming up and a far more important local question was beginning to absorb public attention, which was the question of slavery or freedom for the state of Illinois, and which came to a head six years later in the famous convention campaign of 1824.

McLean's opponent was the famous Daniel P. Cook. The latter was not in favor of slavery in Illinois, but Mr. McLean, being a native of a slave state, was conscientiously and honestly a pro-slavery man. Both of these gentlemen were remarkably eloquent, and both were among the intellectual giants of these days.

Hon. E. B. Washburn says:

"Of all the early settlers of Illinois the names of three men will always stand out pre-eminent, John McLean, Benjamin Mills, and Daniel P. Cook, all dying young, but leaving memories worthy to be cherished by every loyal son of our state."

Illinois had been admitted into the union as a free state, but a very large proportion of its inhabitants were of the opinion that, taking everything into account, it would be to the interest

of this state to cast its fortunes with Kentucky and the southern states. The question, in one form and another, agtiated our pioneers till after the famous campaign of 1824, and it was the principal question before the public in the canvass between Cook and McLean in 1818. Moses' history of Illinois has this to say of the contest:

"McLean was on the side of slavery and Cook on that of freedom. Both being singularly well equipped by study, experience, and inclination for public debate and each of them feeling confident in the justice of his respective side, joint discussions were held by them in all of the principal counties. Hon. Orlando B. Ficklin, who heard these—as also, many years afterwards—the debates between Lincoln and Douglas, involving the same questions, 'awarded the palm' for oratory and interest to the former. McLean, though of lighter complexion, was said to resemble the great Charles Fox in person, and in his style of oratory."

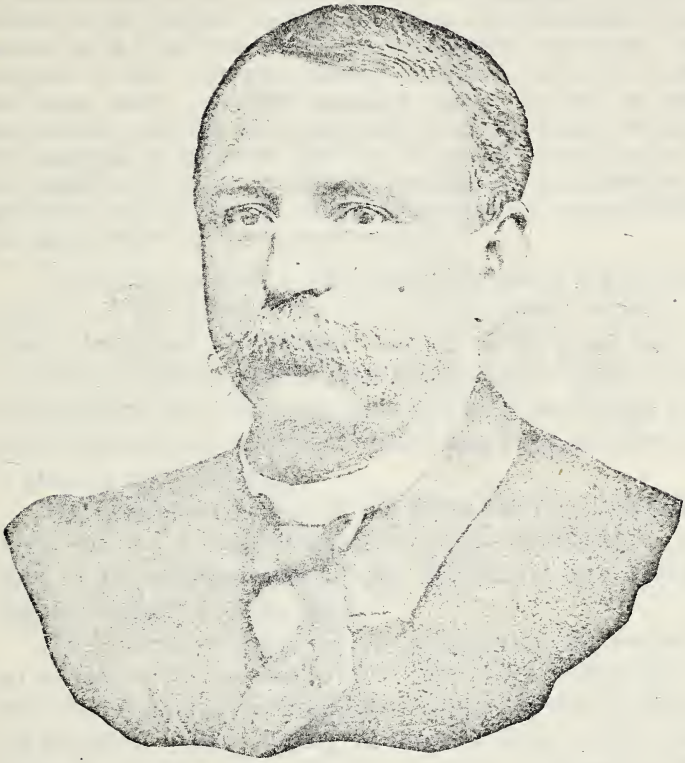
The shorthand reporter and the big blanket sheet newspaper were not on hand during their great debate, and we shall never be able to do more than vainly attempt to imagine how these able men handled the great question, but it is entirely safe to assume that its treatment was not hollow and superficial.

Mr. McLean triumphed at the election by fourteen votes. His term in congress lasted only from December, 1818, to March 3, 1819, but during this time he cast several votes on the side of slavery in the preliminary questions which were being acted upon in congress, and we might also state that he was defeated for congress at the next two elections by D. P. Cook, who voted in congress against the Missouri Compromise of 1820, and who in 1824 cast the vote of Illinois for John Quincy Adams for president, by which act Cook's popularity suffered so severely that he was unable to secure another re-election.

On Mr. McLean's return from congress, in 1819, he returned to the bar of Shawneetown, but was elected to the legislature in 1820, where he served as speaker of the second general assembly and from all accounts, must have been about the ablest politician in the young state.

That he was more than a mere politician, and was also a statesman, we have the best proof possible in the following extract from Moses' history of Illinois:

"The most exciting subject of discussion was the law to incorporate a state bank. The times were hard. Over trading and speculating in-



JOHN W. COOK.
Former President State Normal University.

duced by the too abundant issue of paper currency by the banks of adjoining states had brought every one in debt. To provide a way to escape the existing evils, the legislature chartered the state bank. There was strenuous opposition to the bill, led by Speaker McLean. By a singular provision of the rules the speaker was not permitted to participate in the debates, except when the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole; nor, indeed, to vote on any question except when a tie occurred. In order to deprive the eloquent speaker from exposing the objectionable features of the proposed measure, the house, which contained an assured majority in its favor, refused to go into a committee of the whole. McLean indignant at such treatment, resigned his position, and upon the floor of the house, made a powerful argument against the bill, in which he prophetically predicted all of the evils which ultimately resulted from the operations of the bank. But the bill passed nevertheless and when the council of revision returned it, pointing out the objections to its provisions, and showing how it was inexpedient and unconstitutional, it was again enacted by the requisite majority."

The references made to his debate with Daniel P. Cook and this evidence of his standing in the second general assembly, sufficiently prove that Mr. McLean was one of the great men of the early days of Illinois and we must always lament the fact that the newspapers of that day were so small as to be unable to hand down to posterity the glowing words of him whose memory we wish to preserve and perpetuate.

The subsequent history of the failure of this state bank and of the distress it brought upon the people of Illinois is positive proof of the statesmanship of Mr. McLean in his vigorous but fruitless opposition to the bank.

Mr. McLean remained out of the legislature for several years, but we may be sure he was no idler. He took a leading part in the great slavery contest in 1824, being on the pro-slavery side, which was defeated. From all that we can now learn of this historical contest it was the most excited and bitter ever known in Illinois.

Governor Reynolds in "My Own Times" says:

"Men, women, and children entered the arena of party warfare and strife; and the families and neighborhoods were so divided and furious and bitter against one another, that it seemed a regular civil war might be the result. Many personal conflicts were indulged in on the question, and the whole country seemed at times to be ready and willing to resort to physical force to decide the contest."

Notwithstanding the bitterness engendered in the great campaign of 1824, we find Mr. McLean emerged from the strife with

almost the universal good will of both parties, which may be taken as an evidence that the public gave him credit for favoring slavery purely from what might be called honestly mistaken views of its expediency.

This is fully proven by the fact that in the fall of 1824, on the eve of all of this excitement, when the legislature balloted for United States senator to fill the short term caused by the resignation of Senator, formerly Governor Edwards, McLean was chosen on the third ballot. This legislature was fresh from the great slavery and presidential contest of 1824, during which Mr. McLean had been one of the most active and eloquent of the pro-slavery orators, but there appears to have been but little opposition to his election. He went to Washington at once, and served from December 20, 1824, to March 3, 1825. There was a senator to be elected at the same time for the long term of six years, and we are told that Senator McLean was also a candidate for that position, but being absent on duty in the United States senate, his friends were not able to rally enough strength for his election and the position was secured by Elias Kent Kane. Of Mr. McLean's senatorial career we have little report, but it was entirely satisfactory to his constituents.

While he was in Washington on this service, the presidential election of 1824, when there was no choice of the people, came to a head by the election in February, 1825, by the national house of representatives of John Quincy Adams. Illinois had given one electoral vote to Adams and two to Jackson. Daniel P. Cook, in the House, now cast the vote of the state of Illinois for Adams, thereby making it the thirteenth state to vote for Adams, exactly a majority of the states, and thus electing Adams. The excitement must have been tremendous and we obtain a glimpse of the indignation of such an intense Jackson man as was Mr. McLean, by the following brief item which he sent to the Shawneetown paper, the *Illinois Gazette:*

"SENATE CHAMBER, FEBRUARY 9, 1825.

"SIR: The votes for president are as follows: Mr. Adams, the six New England States: New York, Maryland, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, Alabama, and Kentucky. He is elected. The mail starts. I have time to write no more. Great God deliver us. JOHN MCLEAN."

It may be proper to add that the people of Illinois were too friendly to Jackson to entirely forgive Mr. Cook for his vote, and

he was defeated at the next election. His death occurred October 16, 1827, while he was still a young man.

His name was given to Cook county, January 15, 1831, almost a year after McLean county was organized, and we thus find the names of these two great political rivals attached the one to the most wealthy and populous county in the state, and the other to the most fertile and the largest in territory.

On Mr. McLean's return to Illinois in 1825, he was elected to the legislature from Gallatin county for two terms in succession and during both of these terms he was speaker of the house. Here he was one of the most influential and valuable members, as we have the most abundant testimony. Ex-Governor Reynolds, who served at the same time, gives him high credit, most especially for his share in the revision and adoption of the laws of 1827, which all old lawyers know was a remarkable work to be performed by a legislative body in the time of an ordinary session, and this volume of the laws is in part one of the existing evidences of the ability of John McLean.

Governor Reynolds in "My Own Times" gives an amusing incident showing evidence of McLean's influence as follows:

"In the legislature of 1826 and 1827, a county was organized, embracing the mining district, which was called Jo Daviess county. I proposed the name of Daviess in the general assembly, and John McLean, with much Kentucky enthusiasm, added the name of Jo to it, and it succeeded. It could not be severed in that legislature as we tried it often."

The county was named in honor of Colonel Joseph Hamilton Daviess, of Kentucky, who fell at the battle of Tippecanoe, in 1811.

But two men have ever been speaker of the Illinois house of representatives for three terms. They are William Lee D. Ewing and John McLean.

Correspondence published in the transactions of the Chicago Historical Society and other sources of information too lengthy for quotation, prove that Speaker McLean was actively engaged in pushing his canvass for election to the position of United States senator when the next vacancy should occur. He had set his heart on winning this prize and this canvass was watched with deep interest by his political friends and enemies. Public sentiment had by this time become overwhelmingly in favor of General Jackson and Mr. McLean's services in behalf of his party were unquestioned.

We can form a good estimate of the strength of Mr. McLean at this period, the crowning point of his influence on Illinois politics, by the simple announcement that when the legislature met in the fall of 1829, it unanimously elected him United States senator for the term of six years from the 6th day of December, 1829. This unanimous election is an honor never before nor since conferred on any other Illinoisan and of itself proves his high standing in the public estimation. But it seems disease was wasting his strength and after the close of the long session, May 31, 1830, he came home to Shawneetown, where he died October 14, 1830, in the fortieth year of his life.

On the 9th day of December, 1830, his colleague in the United States senate, Hon. Elias Kent Kane, pronounced his eulogy, in the course of which he said:

"In private life he was remarkable for his benevolence, frankness, and independence of character. No one in the circle in which he moved had a larger share of the confidence and affection of his fellow men. He was by profession a lawyer, possessed of a vigorous mind and a rapid, but easy elocution. These qualifications, added to honesty of purpose universally accorded to him, raised him to the front rank of his profession and there sustained him. As a statesman, the people of Illinois would long remember him as the author of the most valued portions of their statute books, and as the able and acute presiding officer over the most numerous branch of their legislature."

Ex-Governor Reynolds, in his book, contended that no man in Illinois before or since his day surpassed him in pure, natural eloquence.

He describes him as "a man of gigantic mind, of noble and manly form and a lofty, dignified bearing. His person was large and formed on that natural excellence which at once attracted the attention and admiration of all beholders. The vigor and compass of his mind was exceedingly great and his eloquence flowed in torrents, deep, strong, and almost irresistible."

No wonder that when the legislature assembled a few weeks after his death, presided over by Hon. William L. D. Ewing, his immediate friend and relative, it was easily influenced by the speaker to bestow this loved name upon the large new county to be organized in this region.

Tradition informs us that our pioneers had decided to name this county for Judge Hendricks, of Indiana, but through Mr.

Ewing's influence and advice, they accepted the name so greatly desired by the many friends of the late Senator McLean.

Much that pertains to this portion of our subject relates more strictly to the history of McLean county, and little more need be added in this connection. It should be stated, however, that the city of Shawneetown, where Senator McLean lived, holds his memory in grateful recollection. His body is buried on the high ground, about two miles from the ill-fated city, where may be found the following inscription on the slab over his vault:

IN MEMORY

OF

JOHN McLEAN.

Born in North Carolina, February 4, 1791. He was raised and educated in Kentucky, whence he emigrated to Illinois in 1815, where he held a conspicuous stand at the bar, and in society, for talents and a generous and amiable nature. A representative and senator in the congress of the United States from Illinois; he died while in the latter office, October 14, 1830, lamented by all.

Death loves a shining mark, a signal blow;
A blow, which, while it executes, alarms,
And startles thousands with a single fall.

—*Young.*

GENERAL McCLERNAND'S LETTER.

Owing to ill health and worse weather, Gen. John A. McClernand* could not be present. The following extract is from his letter, read by Hon. J. S. Ewing:

"Mr. McLean emigrated from Kentucky to the Territory of Illinois and settled in Shawneetown in 1815, where he began the practice of his profession as a lawyer, residing there for fifteen years, and until his untimely death in 1830. He and I were contemporary residents of Shawneetown for fifteen years. I often saw him in my boyhood and afterward formed acquaintance with him.

"His personality interested and impressed me. The image of it still lingers in my memory. Physically he was well developed, tall, strong, and stately. When walking the streets his admiring observers would whisper 'there goes the great lawyer, the great orator.' His confident step and appearance denoted him a man of energy and decision.

"Socially, he was affable and genial; his conversation sparkled with wit and humor. He married an educated and accomplished young lady in Kentucky, a short time before his death.

"Mr. McLean was not an academic scholar. During his early life there were no common schools in Kentucky or Illinois, and perhaps there was not a college in all Illinois. His only resource for instruction was the wandering pedagogue and his own assiduity. Like many others he was for the most part self-educated, not a few of whom rank among the most learned of the ages.

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*Maj.-Gen. John A. McClernand is a very remarkable man. He was born in this state and thinks he is the oldest person now living who was born in Illinois. He has had a very long life of usefulness. His first office of which we have record is that of aid to General Posey, in the Black Hawk War. General Posey was a general under Washington in the Revolutionary War, and also held a general's commission in the Black Hawk War. He was buried at Shawneetown, near the grave of John McLean.

McClernand was three times a member of the state legislature, and was six times elected to congress, four times from the Shawneetown district, and twice from the Springfield district. His last term in congress was at the beginning of the war. He was always a Democrat, and he went with Stephen A. Douglas in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war, during which he was a general of high rank.

At the siege of Vicksburg he was a major-general in command of the Thirteenth army corps and with his troops came very near entering the city in the famous charge on the 23d of May, 1863. He was one of the twelve major-generals from the state of Illinois.

After the war he was circuit judge of the Sangamon district in 1870. He was one of the United States commissioners to settle the Utah difficulties under President Cleveland. The committee of arrangements were very fortunate in securing a paper from General McClernand, one of the last living men who had a personal acquaintance with Hon. John McLean.

Since the above was written General McClernand has died, his death having taken place September 20, 1900.

J. H. BURNHAM.

"As a lawyer, Mr. McLean was both analytic and logical, combining argument with extraordinary eloquence. He was persuasive with the judge and well nigh resistless with the jury. In his profession he was eminently successful. The compensation it brought would have enriched him but for his exceeding liberality towards his friends and the needy. His mind was practical as well as creative and versatile. The union of these qualities marks the distinction of the great leaders of human progress and amelioration.

"Mr. McLean was an actor on the public stage in Illinois for fifteen years. He led a political movement in Illinois which on the wider stage of the nation resulted in the reorganization of political parties and the election of General Jackson to the presidency. What must have been the energy and influence he contributed in the effectuation of so stupendous a result? Alas; he died with the harness of public duty upon him. He died while comparatively young, realizing the fate which so often overtakes the brave, the active, and inspiring. Peace to his ashes; honor to his memory."

JOHN A. McCLERNAND.

HON. JAMES S. EWING'S REMARKS.

I was requested on Saturday evening by these gentlemen to read to you a very short sketch of Mr. McLean, which was sent here by General McClernand. It is exceedingly embarrassing always to appear before an audience naturally disappointed by a person whom they expected to hear. My embarrassment is not any less than your disappointment, but I can only read to you these words and without any attempt whatever to fill the place in your interest of the distinguished gentleman who is absent, I will detain you but a very few minutes.

(Mr. Ewing then read General McClernand's letter, given above in this volume.)

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—I desire to voice the sentiment of this assembly in thanks to the officers of the McLean Historical Society in what I consider the great and important work which they have undertaken and accomplished. I do not know whether at first thought we realize exactly what has been done, with what great labor they have unearthed the facts that have been presented to you today and which have resulted in placing in this court house a tablet upon which is recorded the birth, death, and some historical facts of the distinguished gentleman for whom this county has been named. I doubt whether 99 out of 100 people in this county know the circumstances under which this county was

named or anything of the life of the distinguished citizen for whom it was named. I doubt whether any of them, or very many of them, knew anything about the man himself.

Human fame is not very lasting. Professional and political fame is, of all things, perhaps, the most transitory and ephemeral. Here is a man who came to Illinois when perhaps 25 or 26 years old; nobody ever heard of him before. In fifteen years he became one of the leading lawyers of the state, eminent in his profession. He was elected to congress. He was three times a member of the legislature and the speaker of the popular branch of that body. He was twice elected to the United States senate. He died at the age of 39, a senator in congress. He was a man who had taken active part in all the great questions of the day. And yet but a few years have passed away and his memory has passed away with the years. By such labor as has been performed by these gentlemen, aided by the board of supervisors, the memory of that just and honorable man, of whom I think hereafter we will all be proud, has been rescued from this oblivion. We have at last, after all these years, to a slight degree paid the homage which his memory deserves.

The men who were prominent in the territorial history of our country were, Governor Edwards, the territorial governor; Govenor Shadrach Bond, the first governor of the state; Hon. Wm. Lee D. Ewing, who was secretary of state and prominent in all the public affairs of the time; Elias K. Kane, who was senator in congress; Hon. Daniel P. Cook, and Mr. John McLean. Cook county was named for one, McLean county for another, Edwards county for one and Kane county for another. These men have all passed away, as I have said, and it requires just such scenes as this to bring their memory back to the people. Will you permit me, ladies and gentlemen, in carrying out this thought, a personal reminiscence.

In the early history of this county, in the old court house which stood on exactly the same spot where this court house stands, two boys were attracted to the court house to hear a lawsuit tried. And when they came into that court house, there were eight young men assembled, not all of them engaged in the trial of the case, but some of them, and all of them giving strict attention to the proceedings. The lawsuit was not one of very great importance. It was between a man who had permitted his cattle

to stray in his neighbor's corn field; his neighbor had set his dog on them, and was sued for trespass. The suit was really between the dog and the steer. But engaged or interested in that trial were eight men, young lawyers. I doubt whether any of them were over 26 or 27, certainly not over 30 years of age, most of them much younger than that.

The court was presided over by Hon. Samuel H. Treat, and I can see him in my mind's eye today, as he occupied the bench in nearly the exact position where I am now standing, a man who afterwards became United States judge and one of the most distinguished and honorable lawyers and judges in the state.

Another one was General Gridley, a man whom all of you knew, who afterwards became a distinguished citizen of this state. One was David Davis, who afterwards was a distinguished lawyer, a circuit judge, judge of the United States supreme court, United States senator, and acting vice-president of the United States, a man of state and national fame, a citizen of this county, whom all honored and loved.

Another one was John T. Stuart, a very distinguished lawyer of Springfield; several times a member of congress, and one of the most lovable of men.

Another one was David Campbell, the prosecuting attorney at that time and afterwards a distinguished lawyer.

Another one was Edward D. Baker, who was afterwards United States senator from the state of Oregon, a famous orator who immortalized himself by pronouncing the eulogy over David Broderick, and who was afterwards killed at Ball's Bluff.

Another one was James McDougal, a brilliant Irishman who afterwards became senator from the state of California.

Another one was Abraham Lincoln, the man who has passed into the pantheon of universal history and upon whose head has settled the sunshine of eternal glory. And these were the young men gathered around this little bar and whose names and fame have passed into history. I might add that one of those boys afterwards became vice-president of this great republic and the other one is your speaker.*

*Hon. James Stevenson Ewing is one of our most talented lawyers. He was educated at Center College, Kentucky, studied law in Bloomington, and has always resided here since he became a member of the bar which was in 1859. He belongs to the well known Ewing family and is quite

Speaking to any audience in the United States, or perhaps I might say in the world, I doubt if an incident of such significance could be truthfully related of any other gathering. We have just cause to be proud of this man for whom our county is named, whom none of us knew, but whom all of us honor.

If one should have gone, at that time, into the legislature of our state, we would have found the following men:

Jno. Reynolds, Thos. Ford, Jno. A. McClernand, Sydney Breese, Edward D. Baker, Daniel Butterworth, Usher F. Linder, Orlando B. Ficklin, Cyrus Walker, Orvil H. Browning, Archibald Williams, Robert Blackwell, Stephen A. Douglas, Augustus Koerner, Lyman Trumbull, and Abraham Lincoln. And I undertake to say that no legislature ever assembled in any commonwealth of this union or anywhere, composed of abler men or of men possessed of more intellectual strength than this body of men.

We are all proud, my fellow citizens, of the great commonwealth of Illinois, and these men whom I have mentioned, and this man whose memory we are here to honor especially, were men who laid the foundation of our prosperity. They took part in the great questions arising during the transition period between our territorial and state governments; they discussed and settled the great questions of political economy and of state prosperity, the question of slavery or freedom, and of our financial policy. We cannot honor them too much.

A man's political fame cannot be lasting unless it is connected with some great principle. A lawyer's fame above all others, is the most ephemeral, because if he exerts his learning and skill and cunning in the trial of a lawsuit, the lawsuit passes away and nobody cares anything about it except the parties interested.

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nearly related to the late Hon. Thomas Ewing, one of Ohio's great men. He is a cousin of the Hon. Adlai Ewing Stevenson, and for many years they were law partners in Bloomington, and they have both been well known all over the state for their activity in the politics of the Democratic party of Illinois. They are both said by family tradition to be related to the Hon. Wm. Lee D. Ewing, who was responsible for giving the name of John McLean to this county. The same tradition says that like Mr. Wm. L. D. Ewing, they are also related to the family of John McLean, but until the family genealogies are published, the exact relation cannot be given.

Under the second administration of President Cleveland, Mr. James S. Ewing was made minister to Belgium, with the title of Minister Plenipotentiary and Ambassador Extraordinary: and with his cultivated and accomplished wife, who was a daughter of the Hon. Hamilton Spencer, of this city, spent four pleasant years at elegant Brussels, the capital of Belgium.

A politician may be prominent amidst the strife of today, but his fame is gone unless he links his name and casts his political fortune with the success or defeat of some great political principle. And thus it was with those of whom I have spoken and of the distinguished citizen whose name we memorialize here today.

I thank you, ladies and gentlemen, very cordially for your kind attention.

LETTER FROM J. B. BARGER.

SHAWNEETOWN, MARCH, 8, 1896.

J. H. Burnham, Bloomington, Illinois:

DEAR SIR: Your letter of March 3, is at hand and read. My recollection of John McLean was on his little farm when he kept his horses and hounds and had a man hired to take care of his horses and hounds. He did not as I ever knew hunt with a gun, it was for chasing with hounds. My recollection is, he was a lawyer, but I have no recollection of his practicing law. We did not have any court house in Shawneetown, the courts were held in a warehouse. Since writing you before, it came to my mind that Gen. John A. McClernand, of Springfield, Illinois, was raised here and knew John McLean. He is older than I am and can possibly give you more information than I can. He was spoken of in the best terms by everybody who knew him. He never went out of the county hunting as I ever knew. President John Cook, of the University of Normal always reminded me when I met him, of John McLean, quick action and speech, but McLean was not so fleshy.

I don't know of any other person now living that knew him but General McClernand.

Yours respectfully,

J. B. BARGER.*

LETTERS FROM CAPT. JOHN M. EDDY.

SHAWNEETOWN, ILL., JUNE 9, 1896.

J. H. Burnham, Esq., Bloomington, Illinois:

DEAR SIR: I herewith enclose a copy of the record of the public services of John McLean. furnished me by my uncle, Judge J. J. Hayden, of Washington, which I hope will be of service to you, if you have not already the same.

Also the following from the history of Hamilton county: "The first house in McLeansboro was a log one built by Dr. Wm. B. McLean, a brother

*Mr. Barger, who was 85 years old in 1896, spent over a year with his daughter at Normal about 1895. He was acquainted with President Cook, and his reference to Mr. McLean's resemblance to Mr. Cook, has considerable meaning. Mr. Barger was for a long time county clerk of Gallatin county. In my visit to the old gentleman at Shawneetown, I did not learn much more than is given in the letter. J. H. BURNHAM.

of John McLean, of Shawneetown." As the doctor may have descendants in that county who have some family records, it is quite probable that you might obtain something of Judge McLean's parentage, early youth, etc., through some of them. Judge T. B. Stelle, of McLeansboro, could assist you in this, as he is an old citizen and has written a history of Hamilton county, extracts from which appear quite often in my book.

Copy of record of court held here in 1816.

"This court met February 20, 1816, at the house of Charles Hill in Shawneetown. Present, Honorables Leonard White and John Marshall, on this day John McLean was admitted to practice law."

Yours,

JOHN M. EDDY.*

SHAWNEETOWN, ILL., NOVEMBER 19, 1896.

J. H. Burnham, Esq., Bloomington, Illinois:

DEAR SIR: I will give you my impressions of the personality of Judge McLean, which were formed by conversing with many people who knew him well, while I was a youth from 10 to 15 years of age. My father bought our old homestead from Judge McLean, and moved his

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*J. M. Eddy was a son of Henry Eddy, who published a paper at Shawneetown, Illinois, as early as 1817, called the *Illinois Emigrant*, and also published other newspapers at a late day, and was a leading citizen of the young state. Mr. J. M. Eddy examined the files of his father's papers for me in search of information relating to the Hon. John McLean, and was of great assistance to me in several directions, and deserves the thanks of the community for his efforts. In this connection it may be stated that at the time Mr. McLean lived in this state, there was no daily newspaper, no large town or city and no newspaper of sufficient size and circulation to publish in full scarcely a single speech from any one in the land. It was not the day of shorthand reporters, and the speeches of public men were seldom reported in full. It was a rare thing, even in the large cities, to publish speeches, but it was rarer still in Illinois.

Even the reports of congress were mere abstracts until several years after McLean left congress, and it has been impossible to find anywhere a single one of his speeches printed in full. In the publications of the Chicago Historical Society in the "Governor Edwards Papers," may be found some letters written by John McLean, but they are largely of a personal nature, and do not give much idea of his literary style, but there is enough to convince us he must have been quite well educated.

Mr. McLean's ability must be inferred from the general statements given by the authorities I have quoted, which are sufficiently definite to prove that he was a man of brilliant parts, and as stated by Mr. Ewing in his remarks, to have accomplished what he did at the early age of 39 years, he must have been a man of most wonderful power.

The fact that the town of McLeansboro, the county seat of Hamilton county, Illinois, was named for Dr. W. B. McLean, a brother of John McLean, is one of very peculiar interest to us. It may be proper to state that diligent inquiry has so far failed to obtain any further information in regard to persons of this name living in either McLeansboro, or North Carolina.

A cousin, Senator Walker, has written a letter from Arkansas, which is given in this connection. J. H. BURNHAM

family onto it in 1832, when I was but 2 years old, and I spent the early part of my life there among country people, several of whom were tenants on the place and so remained for many years.

From these and others living in the neighborhood, I got the impression that he had the happy faculty of adapting himself to the ways and customs of all sorts of people. For instance: When overworked or depressed in spirits, he would go onto his farm where a Mr. Holly kept for him a pack of hounds and spend a week or more hunting foxes, in which sport the whole neighborhood joined.

He would go to all log rollings, corn huskings, house raisings, and country frolics, and would make a full hand at all or any of them. I have heard these people tell how he would beat all comers at running, jumping, wrestling, and lifting, and he would, to use a modern phrase, "just turn himself loose." In fact the people almost worshipped him. All this I think accounts for his great popularity among the plain people. When at home though, he was an entirely different man. There, he was the personification of dignity and courtesy, rarely unbending, never harsh, or cruel or insulting, a perfect Chesterfield in courtly manner to all.

Yours truly,

JOHN M. EDDY.

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*I have always taken a great interest in whatever pertains to the history of McLean county. Long before the organization of the McLean County Historical Society, and even before I wrote the history of Bloomington and Normal in 1879, I had a strong desire to know more of the history of our pioneers.

When it was proposed to honor the memory of the man for whom this great county was named, I commenced to gather historical material for the occasion, with the single idea of furnishing it to some one of our leading orators to be used on the day of the public exercises, with no thought of delivering it myself, being no speaker and only an ordinary reader, but as the members of the Society would not unite in designating any other person, I reluctantly assented to their wishes.

As stated by the Hon. E. B. Washburn, in my quotation from his paper, and as mentioned in a somewhat similar manner by one of our own speakers, the Hon. James S. Ewing, it has seemed surprising that history gives us so little concerning such an eminent man.

But for that matter, we find history has treated in much the same manner men like Jesse B. Thomas, Daniel P. Cook, and Edward Coles, except that Governor Coles like our other governors, had the good fortune to have the state printer for a publisher on many occasions.

Our investigations have at least resulted in giving to the citizens of this county, of whom it is probable those born here are now in the majority, all that can be learned concerning the early statesman whose name is forever attached to our county, and it seems to me that the feeling of county pride so well developed already, is likely to grow with the growth of McLean county, and to deepen and intensify as the years roll round.

If I have been at all instrumental in adding another cubit to the stature of McLean county's patriotic pride in its ancestry, its history, and itself, I shall have been amply repaid for my trouble.

J. H. BURNHAM.

The following is a portion of a letter from the Hon. Thomas Ridgway, late of Shawneetown, Illinois, formerly state treasurer of Illinois. Mr. Ridgway was one of the first to suggest that the people of McLean county take steps to publicly honor the memory of John McLean. This letter was written to J. Dickey Templeton, of Bloomington, Illinois.

LETTER FROM HON. THOMAS S. RIDGWAY.

SHAWNEETOWN, ILL., JANUARY 3, 1896.

J. D. Templeton, Esq., Care First National Bank, Bloomington, Illinois:

DEAR SIR: In regard to Senator John McLean, his residence and burial place here long years ago. His remains lie buried in our cemetery, "Westwood Cemetery," on the hills two miles west of town, the family burial place of all our citizens. The tomb is of brick masonry of oblong shape, seven feet long by three and a half feet wide, with a single stone slab covering the same, with the inscription on its face, the brick walls two and a half feet high above the surface of the ground. The brick work is now needing some repairs. It has been repaired time and time again during the many years since he was buried there, say sixty-five years ago —1830 to 1895.

He is buried among a number of noted men of southern Illinois, such as General Posey, who was aid to General Washington, and was United States senator of Louisiana, and governor of the Northwest Territory—Illinois, Indiana, etc., etc., also Judge Hardin, John Marshall, Henry Eddy, and many others.

While in Washington during his last term he married a Kentucky lady and brought her home with him. Before his term was out he died here during a vacation. His wife was with him. Shortly after his death she went to Missouri, where she had friends and she never returned, and no one here ever heard from her afterwards. McLean left little or no property. He came to Shawneetown in 1815 and commenced to practice law, and soon became identified with our people, made this place his home, and I do not think they would like to have his remains removed. We consider it quite a distinction for our town to claim the honor of once being the home of so eminent a man as John McLean, prior to and at the time Illinois was born into the union—1818—and continuing to reside with us while a member in congress and United States senator, until his death in 1830.

Your truly,

THOMAS S. RIDGWAY.

LETTER FROM HON. J. D. WALKER.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., DECEMBER 10, 1898.

Capt. J. H. Burnham, Bloomington, Illinois:

DEAR SIR: I read with great pleasure a special to the *St. Louis Republic*, of the 7th inst., a notice of the proceedings of the McLean County Historical Society in reference to the memory of John McLean, and extracts from your address on that occasion.

Allow me to express to you my sincere thanks and gratitude, as he was my uncle, the oldest brother of my mother, who was the wife of Col. J. V. Walker, late of Logan county, Kentucky.

There is a mistake in the statement that "He came to Shawneetown from North Carolina in 1815." He came from Logan county, Kentucky, to Shawneetown, according to the family record. The father and mother of John McLean, Ephriam McLean and Elizabeth Byert, the former of North Carolina and the latter of York District, South Carolina, were married in 1788, and emigrated to Kentucky in 1796, when John McLean must have been a small boy, and settled about twelve miles west of Russellville, Logan county, Kentucky, where in 1803 my mother, Susan Howard McLean, was born. The father of John McLean, Rev. Ephriam McLean, according to the history of the C. P. church was its first ordained minister. The McLean record further states, that "the oldest son, John, after returning from Indian wars under General Jackson, studied law under the instruction of Judge McLean in Greenville, Kentucky, and settled in Shawneetown to practice law when Illinois was a territory."

My grandmother fondly cherished the memory of her son and often exhibited presents made by him when in congress.

Should you meet Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson, who I believe still resides in your city, present my regards. I knew him when in congress. Again thanking you, I am truly and respectfully,

J. D. WALKER.*

P. S. It may be of interest to state that the grandfather of John McLean, Charles McLean, came from Scotland to North Carolina in 1750, and was a major in the American army, in the Revolutionary War.

J. D. W.

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*It is with great pleasure that I have been able to add to the published exercises of the dedication, a letter from the Hon. J. D. Walker, of Fayetteville, Arkansas, received by me a few days after our exercises took place. It gives us very important information of which we were in entire ignorance. The fact that his father, the Rev. Ephriam McLean, preached the first Cumberland Presbyterian sermon in Kentucky shows a very honorable parentage. Mr. Walker also tells us John McLean served in the Indian War under General Jackson, a fact hitherto unknown. It is also exceedingly interesting to be told that his father's grandfather, Major Charles McLean was in the War of the Revolution.

John McLean, were he alive today, would be entitled to be called a Son of the Church and a Son of the Revolution.

THE CLAN McLEAN.

Anything relating to the name McLean, will be interesting in this particular connection.

We first meet with the word in Scotland, where the clan McLean was once one of the most powerful clans. Its headquarters appear to have been on the islands known as the Inner Hebrides, on the west coast of Scotland, especially the islands of Mull and Jura, while the McLeans also occupied a large part of the county of Argyle on the western coast of Scotland, adjacent to the Inner Hebrides.

The powerful clan of McLeans must have been the ancestors of all those of the name now found in the various parts of the world.

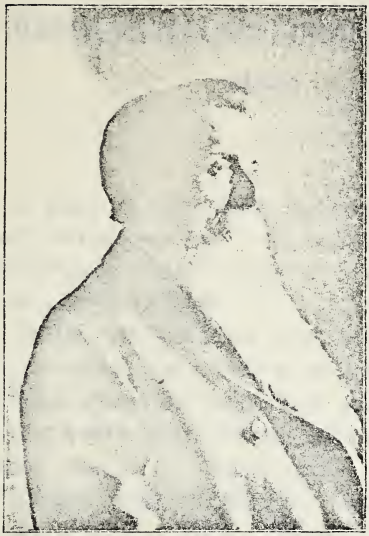
In "The Scotch-Irish in History" published in 1899, by Rev. James Shaw, of Bloomington, Illinois, a valued member of the McLean County Historical Society, we are given a list of sixty-nine of the Scotch-Clans of the present times, and of these, thirty-three are Macs. Among them he gives McLane, which is one of the several ways of spelling McLean. He also gives a full list of names of the different Scottish clans of the past and present, beginning with Mac, and we find there are, or have been, 137 Macs. Among these we find McLean.

Mr. Shaw shows plainly that the Scotch and Scotch-Irish, have exerted vast influence for good upon the English-speaking peoples of the world, and particularly upon the United States.

I regret to state that two letters written by me to Ex-Senator Walker, and one by the Hon. A. E. Stevenson, lately, have all failed of drawing out a reply, but we are exceedingly thankful for the very important facts stated by this kinsman. Mr. Stevenson authorizes me to say that during his acquaintance with the senator in Washington when he was United States senator from March 4, 1879, to March 4, 1885, he talked with Mr. Walker several times in relation to John McLean and the family relationship. He adds that from the feeble health of Mr. Walker the last time he heard of him, he is very doubtful if the gentleman is still alive. He also told me he had an impression, almost amounting to a certainty, that Ex-Senator Call, of Florida, was also a cousin of John McLean and of Senator Walker. The genealogical and other facts here given will enable those who are anxious to learn more, to make further inquiries in North Carolina and Kentucky, and perhaps to learn much more of great interest concerning the McLean family. For my own part, being not yet fully satisfied with my researches, I may at some future time be able to learn something more in this line of investigation.

The letter which is published herewith from Hon. J. D. Walker, who was United States senator from the state of Arkansas from March 4, 1879, to March 4, 1885, and who was a cousin of John McLean, states that his grandfather was Charles McLean, who came from Scotland to North Carolina in 1750, and served as major in the American army in the Revolutionary War. This settles the question of his ancestry very satisfactorily and prepares the way for future investigations if any are curious as to going further back into the Scottish ancestry of John McLean. Mr. Walker shows his ancestry to have been of more than ordinary intelligence and high standing, and he gives very valuable information which was not available at the time the memorial was prepared by me.

J. H. BURNHAM.



GEORGE W. GASTMAN.

HENRY L. S. HASKELL.

CARLON C. ALDRICH.

WELLS COLTON.

Roads of McLean County a Half Century Ago.*

BY GEO. W. GASTMAN.†

I want to turn back the leaves of the history of McLean county to the year 1847. It is almost impossible for one who has never lived in a new country to realize the condition of the roads of this county in 1847.

In the first place, it must be remembered that at that time McLean county was a wide, open prairie, with only a settlement here and there along the timber and groves, and as far as the roads of that day were concerned, they consisted of state, county, and neighborhood roads, and Indian trails. At that time there were state and county roads as follows: One leading from Bloomington to Hennepin, on the Illinois river; one from Bloomington to Lacon, on the Illinois river; one from Bloomington to Mackinawtown; one from Bloomington to Vandalia; one from Bloomington to Springfield; one from Bloomington to Lafayette, Ind.; one from Bloomington to Danville, and one from Bloomington to Lexington and northeast to Ottawa. The first mentioned roads were laid out by acts of the legislature appointing three men, one of whom should be the county surveyor, and which act fixed the date and place of meeting. These three men, after locating said road, should make and file a plat with the county clerk of each county through which the road was laid. If damages were claimed by any person over whose land the road passed, the commissioners were to apply to some justice of the peace, and have three householders summoned to appear and go over the land and assess the damages.

County roads were laid out on petition being presented to the

*This paper was read by George W. Gastman, of Hudson, before the Highway Commissioners' County Convention which was held in Bloomington, Tuesday, October 11, 1892.

†George W. Gastman was born at 100 Henry street, New York City, July 3, 1837; moved with his parents, on June 8, 1838, to Hudson, McLean county where he has ever since resided: is a surveyor and for many years has been justice of the peace of Hudson township.

county court, signed with not less than thirty-five voters living within five miles of the road proposed to be laid out, excepting in counties of not more than 300 voters, in which case fifteen signers were sufficient, provided the applicants should deposit in the hands of the clerk of the county commissioners' court a sum of money sufficient to pay for the viewing. In case the report was favorable to laying out the proposed road, the money so advanced was to be refunded to the persons who advanced it. If unfavorable the expense was to be paid out of the money so deposited. But if the county commissioners' court, in their opinion, thought that the public good and convenience required it, the court was to appoint three suitable persons to view the ground proposed for the road, and after such view, if the viewers should believe the road applied for was necessary, taking into consideration the expense, they should locate it on the nearest and most eligible route from point to point, having due regard for private property, and causing the same to be surveyed and marking the route with stakes or plowing two furrows, at the distance apart of the full width of the road, and then make a report of their doings to the next term of said court. Each person applying to the court for such new road must contribute one day's work, in addition to the number of days required to work in making of such roads.

Neighborhood roads were located in numerous ways by individuals staking them out, or plowing a furrow across the prairie with an ox team and a large plow. The Indian trails were made by the Indians on their ponies, riding in single file straight across the prairie from one point of timber or grove to another. The writer well remembers one that started from the south point of Haven's grove and ran in a southeast course across the prairie to the timber near where the town of Towanda now stands, and from there to Smith's grove and then across to Old Town, near the east end of Old Town timber. In 1847 there were no bridges on any of the state roads except over the largest streams near the county seat, with an occasional exception. On the state road north from Bloomington there was a bridge across Sugar creek and one across Six Mile creek just south of the Haven's grove, and I think that the only place where this road is now traveled as it was then is along Haven's grove on the east side for about three-quarters of a mile.

There were two bridges on the state road from Bloomington to Lexington, one across Money creek and one across Mackinaw river. The bridge across Money creek was washed out in the spring of 1848 and rebuilt in the fall of 1848. The only place where this old road is traveled now is in Money Creek township between the town hall and John Hefner's. The state road northwest from Bloomington to the Mackinaw river had one bridge on it over Sugar creek. The state road west from Bloomington to Mackinaw town had one bridge over Sugar creek, and the other state roads and county roads were improved in about the same manner.

Traveling on these roads at that time when one came in sight of a bad stream or slough, where there was no bridge, the only way was to stop and consider which would be the better—to go up or down stream—to cross. If on either side there was a team already stuck in the mud, which was a common thing to find, you did not want to go that way, unless you went to help to pull it out, which you were always expected to do. In the sloughs then the grass grew very tall, and unless the prairies were burned out at a time when the sloughs were dry, the grass did not burn but fell down and held the water back and caused the water in the sloughs to spread out from one to ten rods wide which made them very soft and muddy the greater part of the year. At such times it would take three yoke of oxen to draw the same load across the country that is now drawn by two horses. The writer has seen teams stuck in the mud on Main street opposite the court house in Bloomington, while the slough on North Main street near Brokaw's plow shop, (now in the 500 block on North Main street) was as bad a place to haul a load across as there was between the court house and the Mackinaw river. In the spring of the year it would have been almost impossible to have traveled over the country with a team of horses and an empty wagon had it not been for the fact that the prairie sod was very tough and when one track became cut up a new one was made and in some places a dozen tracks could be seen at once.

There was no work or grading done on these roads only at the bridges, and when we compare the condition of these roads with the roads of today, may we not expect that in forty-five years hence the roads of McLean county will all be graveled.

Evolution of the Jail of McLean County.*

BY EZRA M. PRINCE.†

Believing a history of the jails of McLean county would be both interesting and profitable to the Conference of Charities and Correction and all interested in "prison reform," the secretary of the McLean County Historical Society has prepared the following sketch of the five jails of McLean county.

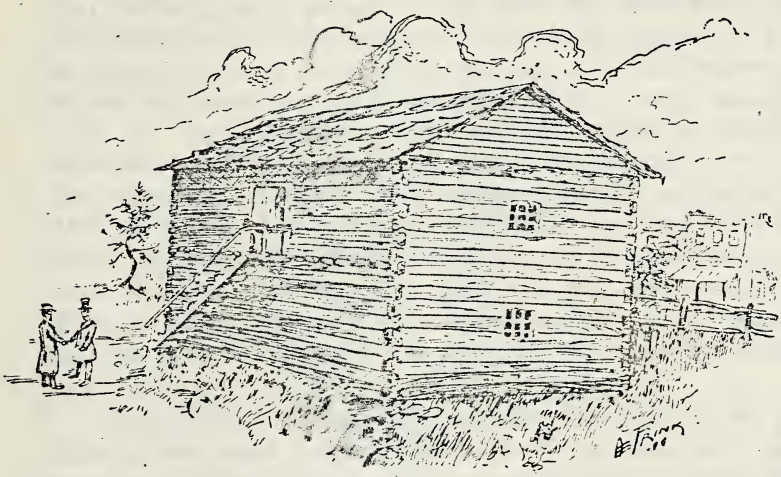
THE FIRST JAIL—1832.

McLean county was organized April 28, 1831, with a population of about 2,300 to 2,500. At the December term of that year the county commissioners' court voted to erect a jail, and at the January term, 1832, the contract for it was let to William Dimmitt for $331. It was situated on the north line of the court house square, midway between Main and Center streets, facing south. It was 16 by 16 feet, two stories, one room below and one above; the upper room was used for those imprisoned for debt and minor offenses and the lower room for those accused or convicted of the more serious crimes. The building, walls, floors, and ceilings were hewed oak logs; the roof was covered with split shingles four feet long. The floor logs of the upper room were also the ceiling of the lower room. They extended north and south across the building, four logs in the center of this floor extending four feet beyond the south side of the building, making a platform 4 by 4 feet. From the southwest corner of the building stairs extended to this platform. At the head of the stairs, and opening into the

*This article was prepared for distribution at the Conference of Charities and Correction of the State of Illinois held in Bloomington, November 1 and 2, 1899.

†Ezra M. Prince was born in Turner, Maine, May 27, 1831. After being admitted to the bar, in 1856, he moved to Bloomington, Illinois, where he has since resided. He was one of the founders of the McLean County Historical Society and has been its secretary ever since its organization in March, 1892.

upper room from the platform, was a thick, heavy, oak door with heavy hinges and a big lock. This was the only door in the building, the only other outside opening was a window in the east end of each room about fifteen inches square, about five feet above the floor, made of frames with heavy iron bars up and down and crossways inserted in the frames which were spiked into the openings in the logs. In the floor of the upper room was a trapdoor. When a prisoner was incarcerated in the lower room he was taken up the stairs into the upper room, the trapdoor opened, a ladder put down and the prisoner thrust down into the inner darkness of the dungeon, the ladder removed, the trapdoor closed and locked. There



THE FIRST JAIL.

was a vault below the lower floor, a small hole cut in the log floor and a suitable seat connected with it. There was, however, no such convenience in the upper room. At first there was no railing to the stairs, but at the January term, 1836, the commissioners appointed Dr. Isaac Baker "to have the steps leading into the upper part of the jail and platform strongly bannistered or railed for greater safety."

The writer has examined the county commissioners' record during the whole time this building was used as a jail, and finds no supplies for the jail of any kind, except "dieting prisoners," and "one quilt and two blankets, $7," for which the sheriff presented

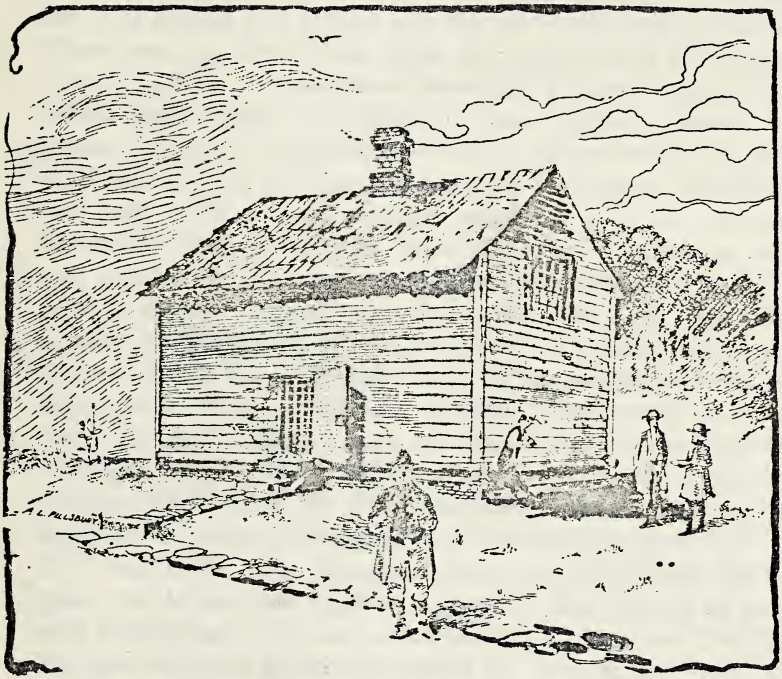
a bill June 7, 1836. For three or four years it seems to have served its purpose well, so far as the records show. Prisoners were few and hardy, and men who had slept in cabins of rough, unhewed logs did not seriously object to the draughts that came through the chinks of hewed logs. July 4, 1836, was the first recorded "jail delivery." One Dick Morrow had bought a lot of saddlery goods of Benjamin Haines, one of Bloomington's merchants, made it up into saddles, sold them, and refused to pay Haines, who sued him, and imprisoned him for non-payment of the execution. When the key was turned on Morrow, he told the sheriff he would be out to help him celebrate the 4th of July, then approaching, and early that morning the people saw a rope, made out of his bed clothes, dangling from the upper window of the jail, the iron bars of which he had so bent as to admit of his crawling out of the window, and he was soon mounted on his pony, that he irreverently named St. John the Baptist, inquiring for the sheriff, saying he wanted to show him a weak place in the jail, and entertaining the crowd with his buffoonery. Probably other escapes followed, for September, 1837, J. R. & R. Fell were allowed $35.24 for iron and smith work on the jail, and Lewis Bunn $54.40 for iron locks and sundry repairs on the jail, and December, 1837, J. R. & R. Fell were allowed $9.55 for smith work and jail irons, and Haines & Co. for log chain and two locks for the jail. The jail irons were probably handcuffs or ankle locks.

The log chain was used as an additional fastening to the door. After it was locked it was fastened with the log chain and a heavy padlock. The iron work in 1837 was probably strips of iron spiked to the logs constituting the lower floor, through which, it is probable, prisoners had escaped. But it was evidently unsafe, for in December, 1837, Henry Miller presented a bill for guarding the jail, and December 8, 1837, the commissioners find the jail was "unfit for use or repairs," and after that sometimes prisoners were sent to the Tazewell county jail, and sometimes they were guarded in this jail. July 6, 1839, the commissioners entered into a contract with Dr. Isaac Baker for a new jail.

THE SECOND JAIL—1840

Was situated on lot 1, block 35, Allin Gridley & Pricket's addition to Bloomington, the southwest corner of Center and Market streets, which lot Asahel Gridley conveyed to the county commis-

sioners and their successors in office July 16, 1839, in consideration of $25—at that time the population of the county was 6,565. The contract for the building was dated July 6, 1839, with a supplementary contract December, 1839. It was 34 feet east and west, by 14 north and south, and 16 feet from the brick foundation to the eaves. It consisted of two "buildings" or rooms on the ground floor, each 14 feet square, with an entry between the rooms 6 feet wide. There was a brick foundation 12 inches thick, with a founda-



THE SECOND JAIL.

tion of two thicknesses of hewed timbers 12 inches square, the upper course of timbers being the floor of the "prison." The walls and ceilings of the two lower rooms were hewed logs 1 foot square, the lower story 10 feet high in the clear, and three rounds of timber above the floor of the second story. The logs of the first jail are said to have been used in the construction of the second.

The top part was finished like a dwelling house with a window in each gable, this part of the building being used as the residence

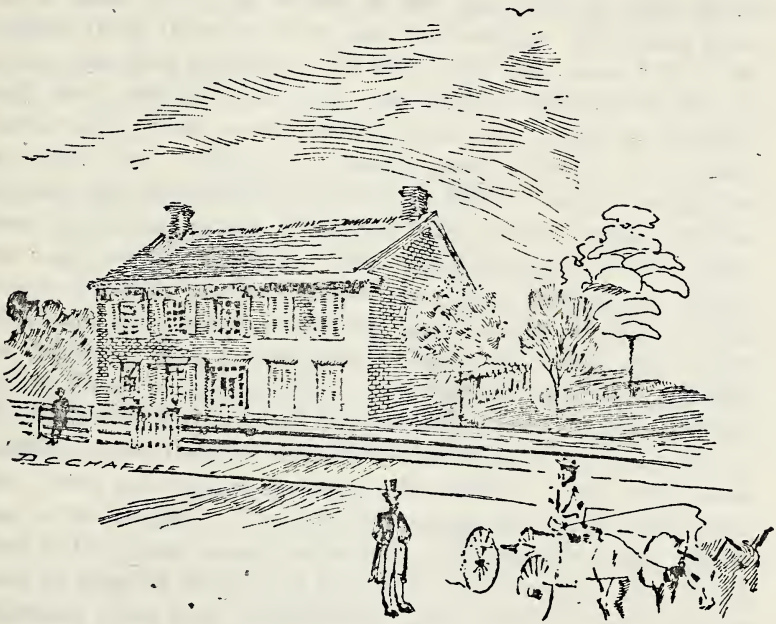
of the jailer. The lower rooms were connected by the foundation timbers which extended across the entry.

The only entrance to the building was through the "front" door opening into the entry on the south. The entry ran through to the north wall of hewed logs which continued from one end of the building to the other. This "front door" was a double door, the outer one a heavy oak door three inches thick with big lock and big brass knob to it, which, when the jail was vacant, the boys used as a "shinning mark" for their rifles. The inner door was heavy bar iron crossed and riveted and fastened with another big lock. There was also a heavy door from the entry to each of the prison rooms; in each of these latter doors was a grated window about fifteen inches square and opposite these grated windows were grated windows of the same size in the east and west ends of the building, the iron gratings being put in the logs as the building was built. The original contract called for a pit in each room twelve feet deep, walled with brick, three feet in diameter and a seat suitable for the same, but this was abandoned and in lieu of it an "outlet" "strongly guarded with iron bars" was made through the north wall of each room with a suitable seat to each "outlet" on the inside of said rooms. These outlets probably connected with vaults outside the building. The north, south and west sides of "dungeon" room, on the outside of the logs, were nailed ten feet high with eight-penny nails every two inches over the side space, before the weatherboarding was put on; the front door and the doors from the entry to the dungeon room were also filled with nails. The "dungeon" room was undoubtedly the west room, for the contract required the logs of this room to be nailed with eight-penny nails on the outside of the logs, ten feet high. The east room was doubtless designed for "poor debtors" and those accused of minor offenses. The walls of the dungeon room were lined with one and a half inch plank put on with four-inch spikes in squares of three inches all over the walls, and both floors were floored on the timbers with plank one and a quarter inches thick, strongly nailed down with good joints. The building was "enclosed" with dressed weatherboarding and painted red. In the entry was a ladder leading to the second story. There was also in the "entry" a large "Franklin" stove which was the only means of heating the lower rooms.

This building was used as a jail until 1849 when the third jail, on the northwest corner of the court house square was ready for occupancy. The contract price for the building was $1,500. In June, 1851, the use of it was granted to the city of Bloomington for a calaboose. It was torn down in 1877 when the fourth jail was erected on that lot.

THIRD JAIL—1848.

August 31, 1848, the county contracted with William F. Flagg to build the third jail, which cost $2,216. It was on the north-



THE THIRD JAIL.

west corner of the court house square. It consisted of a two-story brick building 20 by 41 feet, facing west on Center street, the first story 9 feet in the clear, and the second 8, with an ell one story on the east side of the north part of the main building, consisting of a kitchen 16 by 16 and a wood house 8 by 16, and a tight plank stockade 25 by 25 feet, 12 feet high, in the corner,

made by the main building and the ell. In the picture of this jail accompanying this sketch the ell and wood house are not seen, as it was thought best to take a picture which would show the front, the jail and stockade, or the prison part, rather than the residence part. In the center of the main building running east and west was an entry 8 feet wide, with a door at each end, the east door opening into the stockade. On the north side of the entry were stairs leading to the second floor. On the south of the entry was the jail part of the building, consisting of two rooms, the lower one for criminals and the upper for poor debtors. Inside of the brick shell constituting the outer walls, on the lower floor was a room 15 1-2 by 12 feet in the clear, laid up with square timbers 12 by 12 inches, floor, sides and ceiling. The walls, floor, ceiling and door jambs were all lined with iron about 1-16 of an inch thick, and all ceiled with oak plank 2 inches thick and 12 inches wide, spiked on with 6-inch spikes, four to each log, through the sheet iron. There was a small grated window on the east, opening into the stockade. The poor debtors' room was like the lower jail room, except it did not have the iron casing between the logs and oak planking. The jail doors were of two thicknesses of 2-inch plank with the iron casing between the planks, with a diamond hole near the top large enough to admit of food for prisoners, with an iron door to cover the same, with a padlock to fasten it. The cell doors were fastened with a big padlock. The hinges were of bar iron 3 inches wide and 1 1-2 inches thick, reaching across the door and screwed on from the outside with 5-8 inch bolts and headed down on the inside. The water-closet was in the stockade. The windows, except the small grated windows of the prison rooms, had outside or "venetian" blinds. There were no windows on the west side of the prison rooms. The blinds appearing there were "blind blinds," there being the usual casings for windows, but no windows. At the head of the stairs was the jailer's bed-room. The jail rooms were both heated by grates. There was no furniture in either room except the straw bed and bedding and pail of water and dipper and probably a wooden chair. This jail gave way to the fourth jail in 1857, but was used for an office some ten years longer before it was torn down. The sheriff's office remained in this building until the court house was completed, in 1869, since which it has remained in that building.

FOURTH JAIL—1857.

The fourth jail, a brick building, was erected in 1857 on lot 1, block 35, Allin, Gridley and Pricket's addition, the location of the second jail, which was torn down to make way for this one. The building, somewhat altered, is still standing at the corner of Center and Market streets. It cost $13,150 and consisted of the sheriff's residence, 32 by 42, two stories, fronting east on Center street, the northwest room of the first floor being the jailer's office, the room above it, the "poor debtors'" room, also used for women prisoners when there were any, which was seldom, and the jail, a one-story brick building adjoining on the west, the jailer's office, 32 feet on Market street by 26 feet wide, north and

THE FOURTH JAIL.

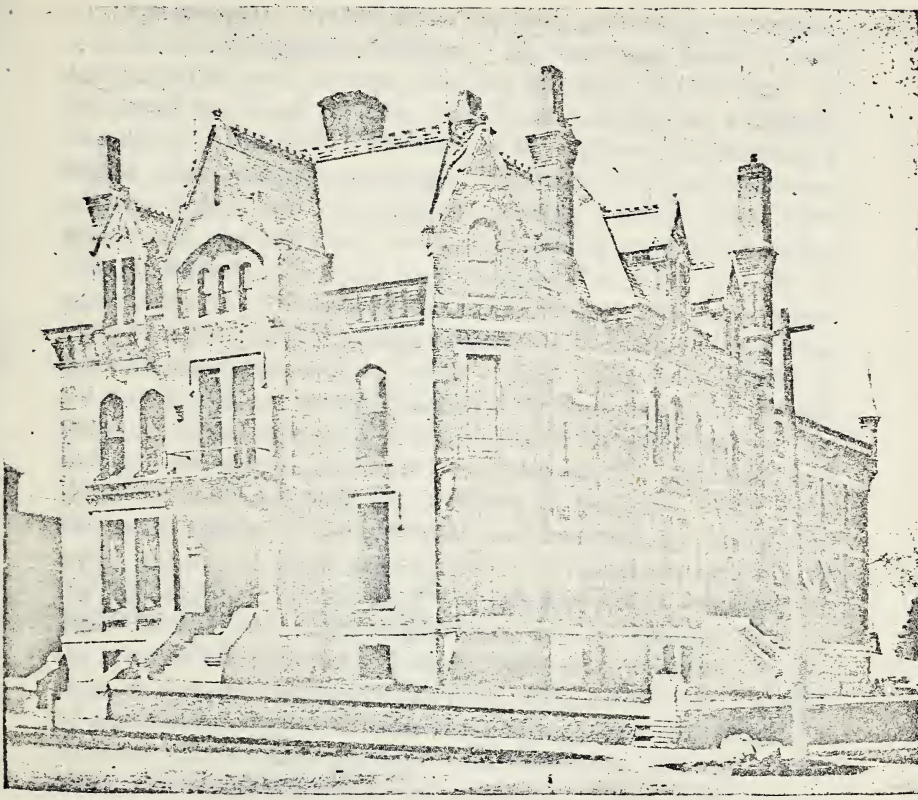
south. In 1868 a thick layer of cement grout was placed under the jail floor to prevent prisoners escaping through the floor. On the north side were ventilating holes about six inches square, the air passing under the floor of the iron "box"—but for some reason this ventilation was a failure. There was a double door in the east end of the jail opening into the jailer's office, a barred iron door next the jail and a wooden door next the office. Also a "peep hole" through which the jailer in his office could watch the prisoners. There was a window in the west end opening into the stockade. The interior arrangements of the jail are well described in a report of George Perrin Davis, chairman of the committee on public buildings of the board of supervisors to that body, De-

cember 4, 1879, condemning its further use: "The jail is an iron box in which is a hall 30 feet long, 10 feet wide and 8 feet high, with five cells on each side 6 by 7 feet with bunks for two persons. In the west end is the only window which in cold weather must be closed. The ceiling of the hall is a grating opening into a low garret in which are ventilators." The top, bottom and sides of the cells were boiler iron, cold in winter and hot in summer. The room was heated by a large stove. The only furniture besides the iron "bunks" or beds and straw mattresses were a dipper and an iron bench in the hall. There was a water-closet in the northwest cell connecting with a sewer. At first this was supplied with water from a tank on the top of the jail which was filled from a well on the lot. There was also a lavatory in this cell connected with this tank. In 1876, Bloomington established its system of water-works with which the jail closet was connected and the tank on the roof removed.

When built this was considered a model jail as doubtless its predecessors were considered when they were built. But the population of the county increased rapidly from about 22,000 in 1857 when this jail was built to 28,772 in 1860, 53,988 in 1870 and 60,-100 in 1880, and *pari passu* with the growth of the county the number of its criminals increased. So that a jail intended for only ten inmates, at times had as many as forty. In this little room were herded the hardened criminal, the boy who had only taken his first step in a downward career and sometimes the insane held for temporary detention. September 17, 1878, the committee on public buildings reported the jail unsafe and December 4, 1879, the committee on public buildings reported the jail, "insufficient in capacity and in strength to safely hold the prisoners, only seven cells available for prison use" and insanitary. The iron of which the "box" and cells were made had become rotten; there had been several escapes, in December, 1878, seven prisoners digging their way out and escaping. As a makeshift the northeast room of the first floor of the main building was lined with 2 by 4 oak and used as a cell room for boys and minor criminals, but the building had long outgrown its usefulness, being insanitary, unsafe, too small and ill arranged, and March 8, 1881, the contracts were made for the fifth and last in the series of the McLean county jails.

FIFTH JAIL—1882.

This is a large and imposing building of brick, with limestone trimmings, built in 1882, at a cost of about $72,000. It is situated on a lot fronting 100 feet on Madison street by 198 on Monroe street. It consists of the sheriff's residence, 68 by 55 feet,



McLEAN COUNTY JAIL.

and the main jail building in the rear, 61.6 by 59 feet; and in the southwest corner of the premises is a commodious brick stable. The accompanying sketch will give a general idea of the whole building.

As to the residence part, without going into unnecessary details it is sufficient to say that the first floor, in addition to a boys'

prison, with four cells, and a jailer's office and large rear hall, contains a large front hall, a reception room, sitting room, bed room, pantry and kitchen. On the second floor, in addition to a room for the temporary detention of the insane, a large rear hall, a women's prison with four cells and a hospital, are a front hall, four chambers, store room, bathroom, and closets. In the attic are five chambers, hall and closets.

The jail part, with which we are more particularly concerned, is in the rear of the main building. The cell room, inside, is 44.6 feet in length, east and west, 43.3 feet in width, 26 feet high. In the center is a stack for cells, three tiers in height, on a concrete foundation 9 feet thick. The floor of the cell room is limestone, 8 inches thick, resting on concrete; the walls are lined with stone 8 inches thick, and the ceiling is of stone 8 inches thick, upon which, over the cell stack, are bars of chilled steel, 2 1-2 inches wide by three-fourths of an inch thick, kept in place by 3 feet of solid masonry. The cells in the boys', women's and main prison are 5 by 8 feet, and 8 feet high, constructed of stone, a single stone for each floor, each side and each ceiling. The doors consist of 1 1-4-inch rods, set in five cross-bars 3 by three-fourths of an inch thick, are locked separately, and each tier of six cells together. In each cell are canvas hammock cots. Between the cell stack and the north and south walls are corridors 12 feet wide. The north and south halves of the cell room are separated by iron grated screen partition. There are two tiers of windows on each side of the jail, the lower 8 feet above the jail floor; these windows are double-barred, and afford ample light, and by opening them in the summer the cell room is quickly cooled and ventilated. Ventilation is also provided for the cell room, cells, and between the cells, by an efficient system of ventilation through the boiler stack or chimney. It is amply provided with bath-room, lavatory, water-closet and drinking water accommodations. There is an observation and "peep hole" into the jail from the jailer's office, and also from the back hall of the first floor and from the second floor, so that the cell room is at all times, day and night, under the immediate oversight of the jailer.

The whole building is heated by steam and lighted by gas. The only entrance to the cell room is through the jailer's office to the rear of the hall, and through that to the prisoners' ante-room,

and from that to the cell room. A resolute sheriff could hold at bay a mob for a long time, and it is quite as difficult for a prisoner to escape through these tripple locked doors. This jail has been in the charge of Jacob W. Swaim for the past sixteen years, during which time no person has escaped from the cell room.

RECAPITULATION.

The first jail was based on a single idea—the detention of the prisoner. His comfort did not enter into the consideration of the authorities. The second jail advanced a step beyond that; the weatherboarding kept out the blasts of winter and the Franklin fire-place in the entry tempered the wintry winds, and the "outlet" arrangement must have been an improvement on the vault under the first jail and the stench that must have arisen from it. The third jail with its cheerful grates and outside closet was an immense improvement on its predecessors.

The fourth was an improvement in the water-closet, lavatory, ventilation, bunk, women's room, and later the separate room for boys. The fifth is in every respect—safety, cleanliness, heating, and ventilation, and adequate provision for the separate confinement of boys, women, insane, and the sick—an immense improvement upon all the rest. So far as the safe keeping of the prisoners and their comfort is concerned, nothing seems to be lacking. The next step in the evolution of the jail will be to provide suitable employment, manual labor, for the prisoners, for it is ever true that "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do."

Playing cards, the prisoners' chief amusement, is not ennobling, as a permanent occupation. The primal curse, "in the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread" was the greatest blessing that ever befell man, and it is unfair to deprive even the criminal classes of their full share of that blessing, and the final step will come through their education, education of the intellect by which with their manual labor training they can earn their living, and moral education through which they will cease to desire to prey upon their fellow men. To this end must we come before we shall find out what to do with the defective and criminal classes.

The writer has taken great pains through correspondence and minute inquiry to obtain reliable information of our early jails,

and we believe the above description may be accepted as accurate and correct.

THANKS.

For a full and accurate description of the first jail, the writer is indebted to Mr. Adam Guthrie and Mr. Sidney D. Baker. For a description of the second jail to the same gentlemen and Mr. Thomas J. Bunn. For that of the third to Mr. Joseph H. Moore, who was the last sheriff to occupy it. and to Mr. James Goodheart, who tore it down. For many details as to the fourth jail to Mr. Gustave Lange, Mr. James Goodheart, and Mr. Joseph Ator, sheriffs at the time it was used as a jail. Also to Mr. Dwight E. Frink, assistant city editor of the *Bulletin,* for a drawing of the first jail. To Mr. A. L. Pillsbury and Mr. D. C. Chaffee, architects, for drawings of the second and third jails. To Mr. George H. Miller, architect, for a drawing of the fourth jail and loan of the plans of the fifth jail. and especially to the Pantagraph Printing & Stationery Company for reproducing these pictures and printing this pamphlet without charge. To all assisting in its preparation the Historical Society returns its sincerest thanks.

Game Birds and Animals of McLean County.

BY M. W. PACKARD.

MR. PRESIDENT: In response to the request of your late president, Judge John M. Scott, I have prepared this paper, enumerating the game birds and game animals of our county, so far as my knowledge and memory serve me; and as the game animals are the least numerous, I have considered them first.

The American Bison, commonly called "Buffalo" the largest and noblest animal of them all is rapidly disappearing from the face of the earth, following closely in the footsteps of the larger and more easily captured members of his kingdom. In the whole length and breadth of the United States there is not a herd of the wild Buffalo remaining, and but few in Canada.

On our western plains, where, less than fifty years ago they roamed in countless numbers, where could be seen a thousand at a sight, in a single herd, affording food, clothing, shelter, and merchandise for the Red man, not one remains; and the only evidence left of their presence in the past is their bleaching bones and decaying horns scattered here and there, not plentifully now, for even these relics of a noble race have been gathered up and shipped to the marts of trade, and utilized for various purposes.

That the Bison was once feeding on our own prairies and resting in our beautiful groves is a fact scarcely to be doubted although the evidence of their presence is now completely obliterated. Yet fifty years ago it was not at all rare to find on the burnt prairies bits of undecayed buffalo horn, and even remnants of the larger bones, yet recognizable; and occasionally their wallows were still faintly visible, where they had pawed out great holes in the earth fighting flies; and tradition through the older settlers, * assures us

*"It has been very difficult to obtain reliable information as to the time when the buffalo disappeared from this section. The account which comes the nearest to showing the latest dates of their presence here is as follows, taken from Matson's History of Bureau county, Illinois, pub-

that these signs of their occupation were still more abundant when they first came here.

These "wallows" are found in plenty wherever the bison has made his home, and are yet of frequent occurrence on the more western prairies; and they have served the hunter well as a place of concealment in stalking the animals that made them, as well as other game.

The Elk, or moose deer, "Cervus alces" of Linnaeus, is a later rambler over our prairies, but yet not late enough to be remembered by any living resident, even those who were old residents as far back as the forties, but at that time and even later, pairs of their antlers were often found still intact, on the prairies and in the timber, proving conclusively that they were once here. We still have "Elks" among us, as I am informed, but they must be of a different species, even a different type of animal. The true elk wears many pointed, broad spreading antlers, and brays as sweetly and sonorously as the donkey, while his modern namesake talks, makes speeches, and instead of antlers contents himself with "horns."

The Black Bear never was a permanent resident of this part of the Prairie State; the country is not suited to his tastes or habits. He lives further south as well as further north; but in some seasons when the mast has been scarce at the north and plentiful here a few of this species have strayed to this county in search of their natural food, and fewer yet have returned to their northern haunts. One, at least has been captured in McLean county within a few years.

The Virginia Deer, "Cervus Virginiaeus," were here in great numbers in the early settlement of the county, and a few remained as late as the beginning of the seventies, when the last remaining old

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lished at Princeton, Illinois, in 1872: "At one time buffalo roamed at large over the prairies of Bureau county (which is about seventy miles northwest of McLean county); but at what period they left the county is not positively known. In the year 1778, Antonia Deschamps, then a lad of eight years of age, came to Fort Clark (now Peoria), where he continued to live until his death, which occurred about 1848. Deschamps said for some years after he came to this county, buffalo were plenty along the Illinois river, and at different times he saw large herds of them, and on one occasion a canoe which he was in came near being swamped by them swimming the stream." * * *

Thirty-six years ago, or 1836, an old Indian of four score years who had his youthful days on Bureau, said to the writer, "when yet a boy (which must have been previous to the year 1790), there came a big

buck it is believed, a grand patriarch with branching antlers, was captured in the eastern part of the county. In the more generally timbered portions of the state there are said to be a few deer still remaining, and it may be that a solitary one, or pair may have been later than the time mentioned, even here, but they are fast disappearing before the advance of so-called civilization, which is very uncivil in some things; notably in destroying the noblest and rarest specimens of bird and beast for sport and for profit.

Time was in this state and county, when venison was the main article of fresh meat for the settler; with his long, flint-lock, trusty rifle he could bring down an old buck, or a fine fat doe whenever the family larder became empty, and without going far or staying long; and this rifle practice, which was almost universal among the settlers of the west, laid the foundation for the excellent marksmanship displayed by our soldiers and gunners in the recent war; the fathers taught it to their children and the children have not forgotten the lesson.

Leaving out the Opossum, "Didelphys Virginiana," which can hardly be considered a game animal, to its few colored epicurean admirers, and only mentioning the ground hog, or woodchuck, "Arctomys Monax," in consideration of his established reputation in deciding the time of winter's departure and the return of spring; and not forgetting his "case," which so well describes the condition we all find ourselves sometimes placed in, we turn to "br" rabbit, "Lepus Cuniculus," little bunny, so-called. He is so numerous, and sometimes pestiferous, so universally known and so widely distributed, that he needs no further notice only the mention of his other name, "cotton-tail," to be sufficiently presented.

We will close the list of game animals with the Squirrel family, "Scuridæ." Two species of this family are found in our groves;

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snow as high as a man's head, and so hard that the people walked on the top of it, and nearly all the buffalo perished." * * * "Mr. Gordon S. Hubbard of the American Fur Company (who lived in Danville, Illinois, as late as 1819), says small herds of buffalo were occasionally seen roaming through the country as late as 1818, and in 1815 the Indians killed two between Bureau and Green rivers in Bureau county." * * * * "In the fall of 1831, a large buffalo was seen on the prairie north of Dad Joe Grove, going in a southwest direction."

It is well known that the buffalo lingered in Iowa long after they disappeared in this state, but as they occasionally came across the Mississippi river they were sometimes seen in Illinois after the generally accepted time of their disappearance."

the fox squirrel, and the better known and more widely distributed North American gray squirrel. Both species have been very plentiful in all the timbered portions of the county, and are still to be met with in reasonable numbers by careful searching.

Squirrel hunting in the earlier years used to be a favorite pastime for nearly all the old settlers, as it required little skill and small exertion in finding the game, and was sure to result in a well filled game bag or string, and all shot in the head, too; the old settler was always a good shot and would scorn to shoot a squirrel through the body; but if he did so accidentally or otherwise, it was not brought home, but the mutilated body was cast aside where it would not tell the tale of his poor marksmanship.

Curiously, the name of the squirrel is derived from two Greek words, Skia, a shadow, and Oura, a tail, meaning the animal that shades, or covers itself with its tail.

The game birds of McLean county are and have been many, both local and migratory: and easily standing at the head of the list, leading them all in size, symmetry of form, and its excellence as game, for the table, is the Wild Turkey, "Meleagris Gallopavo," a true native American, the ancestor of the domestic turkey, the king of fowls, and the noblest of game birds.

In the earlier years of her statehood, the timber lands of Illinois were literally swarming with flocks of this magnificent bird, and as late as 1844, when the writer first came to the state, the groves of McLean county were well supplied with them, or to use a more common phrase, "the woods were full of them," and they were reasonably plenty for ten or fifteen years thereafter. But, like the Buffalo, the Elk, the Deer, they have been gradually decimated by the hunter until now, it is believed, not a single individual is left in this part of the state.

The Prairie Chicken, or Pinnated Grouse, "Tetrao Cupido," comes next, by virtue of rank and importance among game birds; this fine bird is one of the most numerous, as well as the most widely distributed of the native game birds of the western states, and the broad, fertile prairies of McLean county have had, and still retain their full quota. But as the years roll on, and the hand of cultivation is laid upon the rich, virgin acres: as cultivated farms increase, and the open prairies grow less; as men and boys and shot guns grow more plentiful, this beautiful and excellent member of

the grouse family is gradually falling by the wayside, growing scarcer year by year, and in a few years will become a *rara avis* even here on its native heath, and one of its choicest places of resort, where, only a few years ago on any clear, early spring morning its booming could be distinctly heard in country, town, and village all over the county.

The Ruffed Grouse, or partridge, "Tetrao Umbellus," also called "Pheasant," is also found in this county, but rarely, it is not at all plentiful, but is sometimes found along the streams where the thickets and undergrowth are almost impenetrable; this bird is a swift flyer and rarely shot with us, its flesh is white like that of the quail, and highly prized for the table.

The Virginia Partridge or "Quail," *Ortix Virginiana,* our own little half domestic "Bob White," we have always with us and usually in great abundance; and it is sincerely hoped his numbers may never grow less, his flesh is so white and well flavored that it is more generally sought after by the people than that of any other game bird. Time was in this county when the flocks of this species were so numerous that the favorite mode of their capture was by netting them; actually setting long, funnel-shaped nets and driving these innocent little fellows into them, thus generally securing the whole flock in one drive, and hundreds of them in a day. But this wholesale destruction of "Little Bob" is now prohibited by law, and it may as well be added here that it was never practiced by the true sportsmen, men who were possessed of large fishing propensities and who never shot a gun were the ones who netted quails.

The migratory game birds that visit us annually in their season are numerous, furnishing sport for the hunter, and acceptable food for our tables. Standing above them all is the Sandhill Crane or Whooping Crane, *Grus Americana.* This magnificent bird formerly visited us in great numbers, arriving from the south in April or May and remaining until late in the fall; they fly high and steadily, generally in ranks following a chosen leader, who gives notice of their arrival by piping out and repeating his loud characteristic note, somewhat resembling the word "coort" sounded with a rough or rolling "r" which can be heard at a long distance.

The flesh of the sandhill crane has much the appearance and flavor of venison, and the breast of the bird, which is very large

and firm, when severed from the bone, cut into steaks and cooked *a la venison* cannot be easily distinguished from it.

Some of these birds are pure white in color, while others, and the greater number are a rufous brown, Audubon says the white ones are the mature, full plumaged birds, while the brown ones are the young and immature ones, and the proofs he offers seem quite conclusive, although the older Ornithologists class them separately. But they migrate together, flock together and pipe the same rattling clarion note. The sandhill sometimes breeds here, and as Audubon says he has never seen and inspected their manner of nesting I will give it in as few words as possible. They choose their nesting places in a shallow pond where there are small tussocks standing above the water, and where the rank growth of water plants conceals them from view; on one of these with very sparce nest building, they deposit their large eggs, two or three only, and in the process of incubation they sit, or stand astride of this tussock nest, covering the eggs; that is to say, they literally sit, or "set" on their eggs, standing.

If the female bird is disturbed while engaged in this domestic duty, she quietly walks away a short distance then flies a little further off, alights, and moves about all the while uttering the one vibrant cry of the species: but as soon as the intruder leaves she returns to her lonely task again.

The Sandhill moves on the wing with ease, and gracefulness, with his long, ungainly legs and big feet sticking out behind like a steering oar, until he begins to prepare for alighting, when he drops them down and makes the landing in good form, running a few steps to overcome the momentum, like an expert railroad man alighting from a moving train.

These somewhat uncouth, yet graceful birds have another peculiar habit, they dance. When moving about on foot, quietly feeding or resting from flight, one fellow will suddenly flap his wings and give a jump straight up into the air, then another will follow suit, then another, until the whole flock will be in motion, jumping, posturing, pirouetting and bowing in the most animated and grotesque manner imaginable.

These noble birds that once visited us so plentifully, are now rarely seen, or their familiar notes heard in this part of the great west, their favorite parade and feeding grounds are fenced in and

"improved," and their nesting places are drained out and cultivated, and they, the winged lovers of liberty and seclusion have sought out a habitat better suited to their natural instincts.

Of the wild geese, we have as annual visitors three different species, the leading one in size being the well known Canada goose, *Branta Canadensis,* sometimes called "honker" by the hunters, from his deep, clear, well known call as he steadily moves onward with even beating wing on his migratory journeys through trackless space. His advent among us is very early in the spring, even before the icy fetters of winter are dissolved, lighting on the ponds while they are yet frozen, or seeking some isolated knoll where he can keep a constant lookout for intruders.

He is extremely wary, and hard to approach, and is seldom shot, only from a blind, or hiding place, when seeking a place to feed. He remains later than the other varieties, and becomes fat and juicy before proceeding north. The flocks are not large when they stop with us in the spring, but are much larger when they return from their breeding grounds in the autumn.

The Snow Goose, *Anser Hyperboreus,* and the White-Fronted Goose are so nearly alike in everything but color, that they will be considered together. The snow goose is white as its name implies, while the white-fronted goose is a sober gray, with the exception of a small white spot on the front of the head at the base of the bill, from which it takes its name. They arrive here together, their habits are alike, they cackle alike and look alike only in color. Indeed many of our sportsmen believe they are of one species, and like the cranes, the white geese are the mature birds, while the brown ones are the younger birds; and as evidence tending to show that they are right they refer to the well known facts, that the white ones are very wary, their numbers are less, and their flesh is less tender and juicy than that of the brown ones. Both varieties are generally known to the hunters under the common, but improper name of "brant," the Brant or Brent Goose, being a smaller, more compact bird, differently colored, of different habits, and not one of our visitors.

The Ducks, *Anatidae,* are numerous, containing many families, and varieties, and it implies no disrespect to call them all "quacks." In referring to such as visit us on their annual movement north, and return south, we shall only use their common names, leaving

the scientific ones to be ascertained by consulting Audubon, Wilson, and others. The Mallard Duck is the largest, most common, and best known variety of this family that comes to us, and it is supposed to be the original stock from which our tame breed of ducks has been produced. This variety is large, with bright plumage, very plentiful in its season, and much prized for the table. Formerly when the ponds and sloughs of our prairies were undrained, they bred here in considerable numbers, and their young, just before they were ready to fly, were easily taken by the help of a good dog; at which stage of maturity they were fat, plump, and juicy and excellent as food.

The Sprigtail, or Pintail Duck, is perhaps the next most common variety as well as the next in size; they come with the mallards, fly with them sometimes in the same and sometimes in separate flocks, to their feeding resorts, but are much shyer, and do not light so readily, and are not so easily secured. They are not known to breed here, but seek a more secluded nesting place farther in the north. The flesh of the Sprigtail is fully equal, if not superior to that of the mallard for the table.

The Tree, or Wood Duck, so-called, is one of the most beautiful birds belonging to that order, it lights on trees and builds its nest and rears its young in the hollow of some decaying tree near the water; removing them to the water and earth when fledged, by their own skill and help. The tree duck is a solitary bird, never going in flocks beyond the brood of the season. Its flesh is juicy, tender, delicate, and finely flavored, superior to the foregoing varieties, but rarely obtained.

The Butter-Ball, or Buffed Duck, sometimes stays in our ponds and watercourses, but very seldom; it is a compact, fat, plump bird, excellent as food, but little known here.

The American Grebe, though not strictly a game bird, is also a rare visitor, the only two specimens I have ever met with here were, one on the margin of a pond sitting erect like a prairie gopher, and the other found by a school boy, dead on the ground under a telegraph wire, with which he had collided in the night, the time in which they fly in migration.

The Teal Ducks will finish our lists of the ducks, although it is quite probable there may be other species not mentioned that visit us occasionally, but not frequently enough to be noticed. The

teals are of two varieties, the blue-wing and the green-wing, or winged teal: These are the smallest, and most highly prized as food of all our ducks. They visit us perpetually in their season, and are much sought after by sportsmen, for their delicacy and flavor.

The American Coot, or Mud-Hen, sems to be a connecting link between the duck and rail, and although not a very choice game bird, and seldom eaten by our people on account of its peculiar flavor, yet in the south where the bird is very plenty in the winter season, the negroes and poorer classes use its flesh freely, especially in making their favorite "gombo," as related by Audubon; and the French people relish it as rather a choice dish.

The Coot's plumage is a dark slate color, with a few very fine markings, it is a neat, clean, smooth, tidy looking bird, visits us in small flocks, and feeds alike on the land and in the shallow water of our ponds, from which it never strays far away. The coot is not a wary bird, is easily approached in plain view when swimming, and when disturbed, it does not rise and fly away like the ducks, but uses it wings and feet, half running and half flying along the surface of the water until out of harm's way.

The Rails, *Rallus*, are represented here by at least three distinct and well known species, the Virginia Rail, the Sora Rail, and the least water rail. It is quite probable that there are others, notably the clapper rail, and a large dark plumaged bird of this family, that I have seen on a very few occasions, and one of which I shot some years ago; but to what species it belongs I was not then, and am not now, able to decide.

The Virginia Rail is a fine, large, beautifully marked bird, never seen here only singly or in pairs, frequents the margin of ponds, and the sloughs where the grass is tall and thick, runs before the dog when hunted, is not easily flushed, but when once on the wing flies slowly presenting almost a sure mark for the gunner. Its flesh is tender and of excellent flavor.

The Sora Rail is smaller, darker and less beautifully marked than the Virginia, but is nevertheless a clean, nice looking bird. It is however much more plentiful, lives more in and about the water among the flags and water plants which it utilizes in getting about, seldom descending into the water. It is also hard to flush but easily shot, and very acceptable for the table.

The Least Water Rail is a very small game bird, almost too diminutive to shoot, flies steadily and slowly and drops suddenly at the end of its flight, as though shot, and frequently deceives the hunter in that way, making him believe he has a "dead bird" when in fact the little deceiver is very much alive. This variety is very dark, the young ones being absolutely black; yet they are good food.

The Plovers frequenting our vicinity and remaining a while with us in their spring and autumn flight to and from the north, are, the Golden Plover, the Kildeer, or Kildee Plover, and the Ringed Plover, and they are all well known. The Golden Plover is the most common, the most numerous and the most generally used as food. They formerly came to us in immense flocks the last of March or the first of April, and remained about thirty days, and when the prairies were open great numbers could be shot from a wagon or buggy if the horse was willing. This variety is named *Charadrus Pluvialis* by the ornithologists. The Kildee Plover, is a noisy, rattle-headed bird, repeating his "kildee," kildee," constantly and vehemently when disturbed whence his name, *Charadrus Vociferous.* His flesh is not esteemed for the table only when young and full grown, when it is said to be very good, but of that I am not a competent witness, never having tried it.

The Ringed Plover is a quiet bird and not plentiful with us, it lives about the water more than the other varieties and is properly named, *Charadrus Semipalmatus.*

The Bartramian Sandpiper, *Totanus Bartramius,* is a well known bird to sportsmen all over the United States, and is generally considered and called a "plover" as he comes with them but does not depart with them, this being one of its many breeding places; and its young are not yet strong enough to emigrate. They remain with us until late in the season and become very fat and toothsome, and grow wary of the hunter in the ratio of their fattening.

The Bartramian receives a different name in different localities; in one he is called the "Upland plover," in another the "Field plover," while with us he is called the "Prairie Whistler," from his peculiar note in the breeding season, and while the young are still under the care of the parent birds. This note is undiscribable, but could never be mistaken. It consists of a mourning wail

ending in a ripple, and is usually uttered on the wing. Its flight at this season is by a fluttering, tremulous motion, of the wings, and when it alights the wings are extended upward for a moment before being folded. There is one peculiarity which will always identify the Bartramian, it is the only bird of its kind, or relationship, (except the spotted sandpiper that never comes here,) which lights upon fences, posts, stakes, and sometimes upon dry trees, and even out-houses, which it frequently does.

The little Sandpiper is well known amongst us by the name of "Peep." They come in large flocks a little later than the golden plover and leave about the same time. Their flight is rapid and in an irregular compact mass, tacking and turning frequently they expose the lighter color of their sides and breasts, when they present an excellent mark for the sportsman who often brings down a dozen or more at one shot if he gets them in a favorable position. Their flesh is excellent and makes a dainty dish if you can secure enough of them.

The Long-Billed Curlew, *Numenius Longirostris,* of Wilson, the largest species of that family, used to come to our vicinity in considerable numbers, usually flocking with the golden plover on their first arrival, but later, pairing off, and a few raising their young here; but for several years none have been seen or captured in this county to my knowledge, the curlew is a fine game bird, much prized for the excellence of his flesh for food.

The Esquimaux Curlew, *Numenius Borealis,* is a much smaller bird, with shorter bill and somewhat different plumage, but yet about double the size of the golden plover, and a very desirable acquisition for the hunter. It was more inclined to flock by itself yet frequently mixed with the plover, in their feeding grounds. They did not nest here but left with the plover. The flesh of this species is equally prized with that of the long-billed variety.

The Woodcock, *Scolopax Rusticula,* comes to us also, hiding in the thick brush where the ground is moist and soft into which he thrusts his long pliant bill in search of his natural food, the minute shelled animals that congregate there. This highly prized game bird is by no means plentiful in this portion of the state, but still a few are found, and by good luck one, or a pair is sometimes captured by the hunter. Its flesh is only considered second among the game birds for its excellence as a rare dish for the table.

The Yellowshank Snipe, or Tatler, comes too, and can always speak for himself. They are generally seen in pairs and often wading in the pond with other game, standing high on his long, yellow legs, he readily observes the intruder while yet afar off, and spreads the news of his approach to all about him. He is a game bird but by no means a choice one, but the hunter shoots him on all occasions, whenever he comes within range, just for his tattling proclivity.

The Telltale Snipe, or Godwit, *Scolopax Vociferous,* of Wilson, is another talebearer of equal pertinacity with yellowshanks, equally detested by the shootist, and treated in the same prompt manner. The appearance and habits of the two species are much alike, and they are frequently mistaken for each other, although the latter species is somewhat more numerous, its flesh is not very highly prized on account of its fishy flavor. Both are waders, and well equipped for that indulgence.

The Wilson Snipe, *Scolopax Wilsonii,* usually called "Jack Snipe" by our hunters, also called the "English Snipe," closes the rather long list of true game birds of McLean county, now remembered by the writer, both resident and transient. This very common, well known and widely distributed species when plump and fat, which he becomes soon after his arrival, is considered the most palatable game bird that can be set before a *gourmet* or connoisseur. This bird like the woodcock has the long pliant bill for probing the mud and soft ground for its food, and they are the only birds that good cooking requires shall be broiled and served whole, without drawing; and thus prepared, served on toast, they are unequaled.

In compiling this list of our game birds, I have purposely left out the Turtle Dove, because it has not heretofore been considered as belonging to that class, as well as because of the general repugnance to killing that innocent little bird. But of late years thousands of them have been slain every season for their excellence as food—even here; and the further south you go, the more are killed. That their flesh is tender, juicy, and finely flavored I do personally know, right or wrong; and when the matter is philosophically considered there appears no good reason why the life of the dove should be more sacred than that of the Jack snipe or plover, the little peep, or the equally gentle and innocent quail; the

only difference must be in the associations connected with the dove, that are not attached to these other birds, and this is only imaginary and not real, founded upon prejudice, and not upon reason. The command, "Thou shalt not kill," from whence-soever it may have emanated, is in direct contradiction to the example set by nature; for, in her domain the higher orders of life exist upon the destruction of the lower, from Infusoria up to Man. And this is absolutely necessary in the nature of things; otherwise the earth would be overrun in a short time by the rapid propagation and wonderful increase of many of the lower orders.

NOTE.—Since the above article was written the turtle dove has, by the Legislature of Illinois, been protected from indiscriminate slaughter, except at certain seasons of the year, having been made a game bird.

COL. HARVEY HOGG.

By William M. Baldwin, Co. K., 2d Ill. Cav.

The McLean County Historical Society were unable to print a memorial of Colonel Hogg in the "War Record," the first volume of their transactions, being wholly unable to trace his family or procure any picture of him or details of his early life. Since that publication the Society has come into ample material furnished by his son, Harvey Hogg, of Nashville, Tenn., and by Wm. M. Baldwin, of Company K, Second Illinois Cavalry, the historian of that regiment, who was present at the time of Colonel Hogg's death. The only work of this Society has been to collate and edit the material.

The family were of Scotch descent. His father, Harvey Hogg, was "an honorable high-toned gentleman, a consistent member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, the 'noblest work of God an honest man' and universally esteemed. His mother's maiden name was Luvisa Glasgow. She was a splendid woman, a model wife and mother." Letter of Joseph W. Allin, of Nashville, Tennessee, March 14, 1900.

Harvey Hogg was born in the town of Carthage, Smith county, Tennessee, September 14, 1833. His mother died when he was three years old. His father married again and by his second marriage had another son, Grant A. Hogg, who is now living at Altheimer, Arkansas. The father died at Dixon's Springs, Tennessee, November 28, 1840. Like all boys in his time he went to "old field" schools until he was sufficiently advanced to attend college. On the death of his father the family moved to the country where young Harvey was carefully brought up by his step-mother and his uncle and guardian, Mr. Jerry Jamison. Always fond of athletic sports, in one of his rough and tumble tussels at school his left arm was bady fractured, the skin and muscles of the arm being much torn. His indomitable will effected a cure where many boys would have lost their arm. No ice. No advanced treatment as now. How did he save his arm? By sitting for

COL. HARVEY HOGG.

hours at a time under the drip of a spring, the water of which was very pure.

COLLEGE.

When the time came for him to go to college he told his guardian and kind and doting uncle, Mr. Jamison, that he had rather spend his money for an education than in any other way. He tried hard to get his loved ones to allow him to go to West Point and get a military education but for some reason they would not allow him to go there. A compromise was made and Lebanon, Tennessee, was selected. He went there in 1848 and 1849. The last year, 1849, was a fatal year for the dear little town. Cholera broke out and carried to the grave many, very many good people. He nursed his sick friends and classmates until forced to leave the town by those that were near and dear to him. He determined to take a degree and it was thought best to send him to Emory and Henry College, Virginia. Here he took the lead in his class, winning the celebrated Robertson prize medal for oratory. Afterwards he graduated at the law school at Lebanon, getting the highest honors of his class, also that of valedictorian.

MARRIAGE AND REMOVAL TO BLOOMINGTON.

In 1855, he married Miss Prudie Alcorn, of Clarksville, Tennessee, and soon after removed to Bloomington, Illinois. "Although southern born and educated in the south he never believed slavery was right." Letter of his brother, G. A. Hogg, March 19, 1900.

Soon after his removal to Bloomington he became a member of the Bloomington bar, then numbering among its members, David Davis, then circuit judge and afterwards justice of the supreme court of the United States; and among its active resident practitioners, Leonard Swett, for many years the leader of the bar of the northwest, his partner, Gen. W. W. Orme, William H. Hanna and his partner, John M. Scott, afterwards for eighteen years judge of the supreme court of this state; and among the non-resident members "traveling the circuit" and attending on circuit courts, Abraham Lincoln and John T. Stuart. Among these veterans Mr. Hogg soon secured a recognized standing as one of the promising young lawyers of the state. "For several years he was our city attorney, and at the time he entered the service was the

prosecuting attorney of this judicial circuit. In 1860 he was the representative of this county in the state legislature, where he took a high rank and was distinguished for his integrity and talents. He was an accomplished lawyer, honorable in his bearing, faithful to every trust but bold and manly in his practice." McLean county bar memorial, September, 1862.

POLITICS.

"Though a native of Tennessee and an inheritor of slaves, without being fanatical, he was a consistent, conscientious, determined anti-slavery man; as calm upon the subject as a pleasant autumnal eve and as firm in what he deemed duty in this as the rocks of the ocean. When he graduated at one of the Virginia colleges he chose for the subject of his declamation the Evils of Slavery. The faculty were aroused, the president angry, but the young student deliberately told them, "If I speak at all, I shall speak my honest convictions." And he did do it. When he emigrated to this state he freed his last slave, by bringing her with his family." Sermon of Rev. Mr. Pitner at Colonel Hogg's funeral, September 14, 1862.

He threw himself actively into the great anti-slavery contest, took an active part in the organization of the republican party, canvassed McLean county for "Fremont and freedom" in 1856; for Lincoln as against Douglas in the senatorial contest of 1858, and for Lincoln as president in 1860. "The first time I remember seeing Colonel Hogg," writes William M. Baldwin, then a student at the Wesleyan, "was during the campaign of 1860. The republicans attempted to hold a meeting near the 'shops,' in Bloomington, and were interrupted so much they gave it up. Harvey Hogg, then a young lawyer at Bloomington, made arrangements with others to try it again and the students from the Wesleyan and Normal formed a good portion of the gathering. Colonel Hogg announced to start with that 'they would brook no interference from any one and there was none.'"

Colonel Hogg's acquaintance with the daily aspects of slavery, his fairmindedness, his love for the southern people, his appreciation of their fatal entanglements with the institution, rendered him a popular and effective speaker especially among those like himself of southern birth of which there were very large numbers in Mc-

Lean county. An editorial in the *Pantagraph* of May, 1856, on the county convention, May 17, 1856, that appointed delegates to the republican state convention of May 29, 1856, which was addressed by Colonel Hogg says, "The remarks of H. Hogg, Esq., being recently from a slave state, were enthusiastically applauded."

He was an earnest, logical, and eloquent speaker and though a new man in the county, was elected to the legislature in 1860, where he so impressed Governor Yates with his ability that on the organization of the Second Illinois Cavalry the governor tendered him the position of lieutenent-colonel of the regiment. Notwithstanding his wife even then was in frail health and he had two small children dependent upon him, the call of his country was too urgent, the martial spirit too strong in him to refuse the offer and he was mustered into the service of the union July 24, 1861. He was a natural born soldier and leader of men. A thorough disciplinarian but always courteous and thoughtful of those under him. Brave, resolute, and untiring in the duties of his office, he made a model officer. During his service his wife died in Tennessee, where she had gone to be among the friends of her childhood and be near her husband, who was devotedly attached to her. He brought her remains to Bloomington where she was buried.

About the middle of November, 1861, the regiment was sent to Paducah, Kentucky, and during the winter following was engaged in the usual scouting duty of the cavalry. During the winter of 1861 and 1862 "he was instrumental in organizing several companies of cavalry." Letter of W. M. Baldwin.

They participated in the expedition against Fort Henry but were not engaged in any actual fighting. "About sun-down March 2, 1862, Lieutenent-Colonel Hogg started with 200 men of the regiment to reconnoitre Columbus, Kentucky; after going about seven miles they camped for the night on the banks of a swollen stream. The next day at Milburne, about thirteen miles from Columbus, they learned that the place was being evacuated. The colonel told the boys that he proposed to march direct to Columbus and that they might meet some rebels." "If we do," said the colonel, don't use your pistols but give them the cold steel. The saber is the weapon for the cavalry to rely on." They entered Columbus about sundown the next day and with drawn sabers dashed into town and ran up the stars and stripes amid cheers for the union and

their gallant colonel. The enemy had just left town. They found several large guns and military stores but most had been moved or destroyed. The next day a fleet of gun-boats and transports bearing General Sherman and three regiments of infantry steamed cautiously down the river not knowing the place was in our possession until they saw the stars and stripes floating in the breeze." History Second Illinois Cavalry. March 31, 1862, with two companies of the Second Colonel Hogg took part in an expedition under General Quimby, which starting from a point opposite Island No. 10, went near Union City, Tennessee, and dispersed a confederate brigade, commanded by Col. Edward Pickett, consisting of Twenty-first Tennessee Infantry, under Lieutenent-Colonel Tulman and Colonel Jackson's regiment of cavalry, captured fourteen prisoners and considerable stores, also destroying their camp equipage. July 4, 1862, Colonel Hogg was at Trenton, Tennessee, and gathered a large number of citizens from the surrounding country and delivered an address to them calculated to induce any that were undecided or wavering to cast their lot with the Union and did much good. Letter of W. M. Baldwin.

BATTLE OF BOLIVAR.

August 30, 1862, Col. M. D. Leggett, of the Seventy-eighth Ohio was attacked near Bolivar, Tennessee, by an overwhelming force. Reinforcements were sent to his aid, among others Colonel Hogg with four companies of his command, about 125 men.

L. F. Ross, brigadier-general commanding the district, in his official report says, "After a skirmish of about seven hours by our infantry our artillery was brought to bear upon the enemy, this followed by a gallant charge of our cavalry under Lieutenent-Colonel Hogg drove the enemy from the field, in this charge Colonel Hogg fell while engaged in a hand to hand fight with Colonel McCullough by a shot fired by one of McCullough's men." Rebellion Record, Series 1, vol. 17, part 1, Reports.

The regiment charged by Colonel Hogg was the Second Missouri Cavalry, Col. Robert McCullough commanding. The First Mississippi Cavalry, of which Colonel Hogg's half brother, Dr. Grant A. Hogg, was a surgeon was also engaged in the fight. Dr. Hogg, however, was not on the field of battle at Bolivar but

"being a medical officer was left one day's march behind. * * * Gen. Bob McCullough, now of Boonesville, Missouri, was in command of the regiment that killed my brother. * * * He, "Colonel Hogg," was trying hard to get to Colonel McCullough to kill him with his saber and if it had not been for three of McCullough's men who shot him he would have killed McCullough." Letter of Dr. G. A. Hogg to W. M. Baldwin, March 19, 1900.

Colonel Leggett in his official report of the battle of Bolivar, after speaking of the early part of the engagement and his call for reinforcements, says:

The infantry reinforcements had not arrived. The balance of the Seventy-eighth Ohio was reported close by, but not near enough to support the artillery, hence it could not be used. At this point Lieut.-Col. Harvey Hogg, of the Second Illinois Cavalry, came up, with orders from you to report to me upon the field with four companies of his command. I immediately assigned him a position on the right of the road, but discovering that the enemy would probably make a cavalry charge upon us before Colonel Force could reach me from Van Buren road, I asked Colonel Hogg if he could hold a position on the left of the road and a little to the front of where he then was against a charge from the rebel cavalry. He promptly said he could and besought me to give him the position, which was done.

He had not completed his change of place before the enemy charged down the line of the road in vast numbers, but meeting the deadly fire of the four infantry companies under command of Captain Chandler they were compelled to retreat, leaving many of their horses and men strewn upon the ground.

They twice repeated their attempt to get possession of the road and were both times repulsed by the companies under Captain Chandler. Then they threw down the fences and entered the field upon our left and opened fire upon Colonel Hogg's cavalry and the two companies of the Twentieth Ohio attached to Captain Chandler's command. The infantry and cavalry returned the fire briskly and with terrible effect. I then discovered that a full regiment of cavalry was forming in the rear of those firing on us, with the determination of charging upon our cavalry and that portion of the infantry on the left of the road. I said to Colonel Hogg if he had any doubt about holding his position he had better fall back and not receive their charge. He promptly replied "Colonel Leggett, for God's sake don't order me back." I replied, "Meet them with a charge, colonel, and may Heaven bless you." He immediately ordered his men to draw their sabers, and after giving the order to "Forward" he exclaimed, "Give them cold steel, boys," and darting ahead of his men he fell pierced by nine balls. Report of Colonel Leggett, Rebellion Record.

Among those who fell at the head of this charging column was also Sergeant William Ross, of Leroy, in this county.

Colonel Hogg was the picture of manly strength and soldierly bearing; about six feet in height, compactly built, erect, moving with the easy step of an athlete as if he delighted in action, a superb horseman, black hair, dark eyes and swarthy complexion; loved by his men for his ever courteous conduct to them and trusted by them for his bravery and courage, had he not been thus early cut down in his military career he would no doubt have achieved high military honors and placed himself beside the great cavalry leaders of the war.

EARLY NURSERIES.

BY JOHN H. BURNHAM.

The first settlers of McLean county had very little comprehension of the great changes that were to take place in the physical appearance of the groves and prairies. They believed the groves would almost entirely disappear because of the prospective demand for wood and timber, but they little dreamed of the immense number of fruit and ornamental trees that would cover the prairies within a little over a half a century after the first families landed at Blooming Grove.

I have been told by Mr. John Dawson, who is now living, son of John W. Dawson, one of our first settlers, that his father, who came here in 1822, brought some young apple and pear trees from Sangamon county, and that a few of these trees planted before 1826 are still living, the apple trees in Blooming Grove, and a pear tree in the town of Dawson. Also, that his father raised the first young apple trees from the seed, which were in great demand by the settlers, who soon began to settle around the different groves of McLean county.

From all that I can learn, fruit tree planting then generally consisted of raising peach trees from the seed, and planting a few young seedling apple trees, as improved varieties of apples were but little known on this frontier region. The temperance reformation had not yet prevailed to such an extent as to make cider-drinking wholly a lost art, and tree peddling had not yet become the fine art so well known to modern Bloomingtonians. Improved apple trees did occasionally make their appearance, but the demand for them had hardly made itself felt even in large parts of the east where markets were good, and in this partly settled district, tree nurseries, though not wholly unknown, were few and far between. In the course of my investigations in regard to our early nurseries, I was fortunate enough to find Mr. Robert Fell, brother of the well known Jesse W. Fell, who furnished me with very valuable information. He tells me that at a very early day, probably

in 1835 or a little earlier, Mr. Nelson Buck had a small nursery of about two acres. It was upon ground within the limits of the city of Bloomington, and was between Jefferson street and what used to be called the North Slough. It was just east of the present high school building, and between that and Evans street. Mr. Buck sold some trees from his nursery, and when he moved to Pontiac in 1849, he took up a large number of the very young trees and carried them to Pontiac.

The next nursery was started in 1838 by Jesse Fell. He was the father of Jesse W., Joshua, Thomas, Kersey H., and Robert Fell, and came here from Pennsylvania, where he had been interested in tree growing. He was an enthusiastic lover of trees, and the Fell family, his descendants, have always been noted for their love of trees, and for their thorough understanding of tree growing and fruit culture. Future generations will never be aware of the great debt they owe to this family, or of their great indebtedness to other pioneers along these lines.

Mr. Jesse Fell had a nursery of about five acres, quite an enterprise when we consider the limited area where he could look for customers, and the limited demand for trees which could be anticipated. His nursery was in the east part of the city and was between the Illinois Central railroad and Clinton street. It was between Washington and North (now Monroe) streets.

The residence of Mr. E. C. Hyde and ground in that vicinity was very near to Fell's nursery.

Mr. Robert Fell carried on this nursery, which had been his father's, from about 1847 to 1852, when he sold most of his stock to F. K. Phœnix. He turned most of the tract south of Jefferson street into what is still called Robert Fell's addition to the city of Bloomington, and moved to Adams county in 1852, returning to this city in 1860. He is now over eighty years old and resides in this city on North Evans street, has a good memory, and enjoys life.

Mr. Robert Fell sold his nursery stock, and good will of his nursery, to Mr. Franklin K. Phœnix in 1852. This great leader of the nursery business, purchased 45 acres from W. T. Major, in the northeast part of Bloomington in 1852, transplanting to this land, part of the Fell stock, and also taking many trees from Delavan, Wisconsin, where he had been engaged in the nursery business for many years, and where he still resides. He carried on

this nursery for a year or more without leaving Delavan, came here in 1854, and began his great career in the tree business, which lasted till 1877. His business at one time covered about six hundred acres of land, occupied 13 green-houses, and employed at times from 150 to 250 men and boys.

His advertisements and catalogues carried the name of Bloomington to almost every country where the English language was then spoken. His eloquent appeals for trees for profit, trees for pleasure, trees for future generations, attracted the attention of tens of thousands of the early settlers upon the great treeless prairies of the west, and his magnificent enthusiasm has left many an evidence in the shape of orchards, groves and wind-breaks all over the western states.

I make the following extracts from a letter written by Mr. Phœnix to the secretary of this Society in 1893.

"The purchase of ground the nursery was located on, was, as I now remember, some 45 acres. The front ten acres or more was sold me at $55, the remainder at $45 per acre, by Elder W. T. Major.

"The town of Bloomington and vicinity was settled largely by Kentucky and other southern states emigrants, to whom our northern ways were a decided novelty. Our house of brick, N. B. Heafer, builder, was built the fall of 1854, that very dry season by the way, and we moved in the last Monday of 1854 and the next Saturday night, New Year's eve, came that most terrible snow and blow that blockaded western railroads so long. As I remember, Asa Moore was then the C. A. & St. L., railroad superintendent.

"About 1858, I think, I bought the Junk 80 acres, and at the breaking out of the war, 1861, the Sweet and Orme, formerly James Major's tract, immediately adjoining my home place on the north. I remember well how, in the fifties, I tried to sell my nursery stock product direct to the planters without the help of traveling canvassers taking the orders, packing the trees at the nursery, and delivering at the nearest railroad station. Rather than employ those canvassers, I burned the largest part of two seasons' crop of trees. Finding that would not pay, I sought canvassers, and very well remember the first shipment of any amount was with a Mr. Benjamin C. Ray, from the state of Maine, who took, I think, $1,900 worth to Kansas, the freight also prepaid by me, on which I never got back a cent.

"F. A. Baller was for years florist and green-houseman. Of the earlier nurserymen foremen, my cousin, S. T. Kelsey, now of Lakeville, North Carolina, is worthy of special mention.

"I wish I had space and could recall the names of the whole army of toilers who helped me in the long years between my humble beginning there in 1852, and my deeply mortifying failure in 1877. Ever since then I have lived in the fond, if vain, hope of yet somehow in my early life, somehow as far as might be, getting even again. In this beclouded past, the only bright spot I find is in my poor temperance reform efforts from September, 1865, to November, 1879, when I left Bloomington. I can truly say of them that to the best of my knowledge, I sought the truest, widest spiritual emancipation for the whole human family. Freedom of soul, of body, etc., etc., through simple American freedom of thought, discussion, ballot and arbitration."

During the period between 1852 and 1860, Bloomington was the headquarters of the tree business, and its great men in the business were Phœnix, Cyrus R. Overman, W. H. Mann, and Dr. H. Schroeder.* They were all men of brains. They labored incessantly to create public sentiment in favor of tree planting. They were ably assisted by Jesse W., and K. H. Fell and our genial friend, one of the present members of this Society, the Rev. G. W. Minier. All of these gentlemen and others of similar tastes, wrote tree articles for the newspapers, or delivered public addresses, or sent out tree catalogues, or helped organize horticultural and agricultural societies, and in many ways infused into the public mind an enthusiastic and lasting love for trees, fruit and flowers, whose effects will always be visible in this community.

Jesse W. Fell planted tens of thousands of trees in the streets of Normal, and upon the grounds of the State Normal University, and the Soldiers' Orphans' Home. Dr. Schroeder planted the first vineyards in this vicinity and with K. H. Fell,

*At this date, April, 1901, Dr. H. Schroeder is still living and still engaged in the nursery business. His nursery is just east of the eastern end of Olive and Taylor streets, and contains about eighty acres or more, largely devoted to grapes, flowers and small fruits. Dr. Schroeder has perhaps done more in the course of his very long business career to advertise Bloomington all over the world, than any other man who has ever lived in this city.

taught our people how to raise grapes on the prairie. He has also advertised Bloomington's good name widely to the world, and is to-day still in the business on a large scale, having the longest record of any of our nurserymen.

Overman and Mann carried on their tree business northeast of Normal, the latter having made a wide reputation by bringing many thousands of bushels of osage orange seed from Texas for our prairie hedges.

Cyrus R. Overman was one of nature's noblemen, and must not be omitted from our list of lovers of trees and tree planting. He died in 1866, and I take pleasure in copying the following from the transactions of the Illinois State Horticultural Society's transactions in 1866:

"In the orchards and gardens, the lanes and groves, the hedge and ornamental trees that now adorn these beautiful prairies, we may see his monument, and read his epitaph, since they all tell of his untiring efforts to improve the condition of his fellow beings, and of his noble heart, that was ever gushing with goodness, and with the warmest affection for all of his associates."

Our good friend Minier's name is modestly appended to the end of the report from which I extract this resolution, and it is safe to say that his loving heart inspired this affectionate tribute. Mr. Overman's grave in the Bloomington cemetery, is marked by a beautiful marble monument in the shape of a carved tree trunk upon which climbs a marble vine, which monument was placed where it is by the Illinois Horticultural Society, and it gives me great pleasure to call to your minds these evidences that his memory has been thus appropriately preserved in this state and community.

It is a little remarkable that so many of our pioneer tree growers are alive to this day. Phœnix, Robert Fell,* Dr. Schroeder, Mann, and Minier, are our living and active representatives of Bloomington's famous tree growers and tree planters, the last mentioned having a wide national reputation as an enthusiastic,

*Robert Fell died a year or two after these lines were written, but the other three mentioned are still alive at this date, 1901, though they are all in quite feeble health.

observant and practical lover of forest trees, being an active member of the National Forestry Congress.

Many of the other tree growers in and around Bloomington are perhaps equally worthy of notice, but my time will not allow any further mention, nor will I attempt to allude to those who are at present largely engaged in the growth of flowers, fruit, or trees, although in some cases the business is carried on upon a large scale in Bloomington and Normal.

GROVES OF McLEAN COUNTY.

BY REV. G. W. MINIER,* OF MINIER.

With hesitation and misgivings of my ability to do justice to the subject, I have consented to prepare a paper on the groves of McLean county. Perhaps we should say, forests. But the areas of these spots of beautiful timber are so limited, that the term grove is more appropriate.

By taxing the memory of the old settlers, I am enabled to give the names of twenty of these groves,—names, as may be supposed, of the first settlers, or some peculiarity in formation, or relation to other groves in their vicinity. We have them here in alphabetical order, so far as can be learned. Brown's Grove, Brooke's Grove, Blooming Grove, Buckle's Grove, Cheney's Grove, Dry Grove, Diamond Grove, Funk's Grove, Hard Maple Grove, Johnson's Grove, Major's Grove, Mosquito Grove, Old Town Timber, Randolph Grove, Soft Maple Grove, Stout's Grove, Smith's Grove, Twin Grove, Walnut Grove, and White Oak Grove, or timber along the Mackinaw. Should there be any error in this catalogue, we hope some one will correct the mistake.

AREA OF McLEAN COUNTY.

Within the boundary lines of McLean county are 1,132 square miles, or 724,480 acres. At least ten per cent of this area ought to be in timber. Our best economists place the most satisfactory results of timber, on climate and production to be fifteen or twenty per cent. The groves of McLean county do not cover ten per cent of its area. That would be about 72,480 acres of woodland, leaving 652,000 acres of land for cultivation. With this sad spectacle before us, the citizens are not caring for their woodlands.

*Rev. George W. Minier, born in Pennsylvania, October 8, 1813; came to McLean county in 1847, is a charter member of the American Forestry Association. For biographical sketch see vol. I, Transactions McLean County Historical Society, page 523.

Within sight of this meeting house* are more than one grove almost blotted out. It will be a sad mistake of the citizens of this county and of this state, if they continue the devastation of their forests.

In the first settlement of your county the tall grasses, now almost obliterated, kept the soil from washing away. The trees along the head waters of your streams, with their interwoven network of rootlets held the sacred gift of bountiful Heaven, in the almost exhaustless fertility of your soil from wasting and washing away.

Every thoughtful man now sees by the deep ditches, the washouts on his farms, that some part of the soil has started for the Gulf of Mexico via Mackinaw, Illinois and Mississippi rivers.

Now if the people of this county, of this state, yes of this nation, do not want to see repeated here, the lamentable sights now seem in some districts of France, Spain, Palestine, and doubtless of Arabian deserts, they must preserve their forests, they must plant *timber*, trees.

By a law of our state every farmer is permitted to plant roadside trees. We are indebted to Senator Willard C. Flagg, of Madison county, for this law. Good and worthy statesman, he has gone before to be enchanted by the birds of Paradise which sing in the bowers of that heaven which knows no satanic influence to mar its beauty, embitter its happiness or alienate its citizens. He was one of high and lofty thought who believed and acted out the principle that this world ought to be the wiser, better, happier, and more beautiful for our having lived in it. A man of modest pretensions and great merit.

In this county we have several species of deciduous trees, and so far as known to myself but one evergreen. Of course I mean natives, not exotics. Of the oaks (quercus) we have four varieties. Of maples (acers) three. Of elms (ulmus) two. Of walnuts (juglans) two. Omitting botanical names we proceed to enumerate: mulberry, hackberry, sycamore, honey locust, poplar, aspen, cottonwood, linden or basswood, coffeenut, hickory, ash, even the willow and sassafras attain to the dignity of a tree. We will not stop to speak particularly of the shrublike plants, the crab-apple,

*Unitarian church, Bloomington, Ill.

gorgeous in its spring blossoms, rivalling in beauty and fragrance many a cultivated exotic. The wild plum, thorn apple, black haw, and even the despised elder.

Now these shrubs and small trees are nature's protectors for the infant trees. But how came trees to be in existence? Everything begins in miracle. All the oaks now on the earth sprang from acorns. But the first oak did not come from an acorn; by the fiat of the Almighty it was created and planted in the earth. Everything now moves, grows, accumulates by—laws. But how were our groves and forests planted? Well that is a question more easily asked than answered.

Shakespeare, than whom no uninspired man is of higher authority, tells us that the joiner squirrel and old grub have been time out of mind, the fairies' coach makers. I shall not presume to question so high authority. Every reader of poetry knows that Shakespeare knew all about witches, fairies, and goblins, save perhaps a trifle that Tam O'Shanter saw one night, when Burn's imagination had him peeping through a window of "Auld Kirk Aloway."

But you are not satisfied with this illustration. Neither am I. We do know that the seeds of some trees as the elms and maples have a sort of knife shaped wings. Others as the cottonwood and sycamore have downy coverings and are carried great distances by the wind. Then comes the "joiner-squirrel" and other small animals and many birds, and scatters the seeds of trees among weeds, plants, and shrubs, by the shade of which they are protected from the fierce rays of the summer sun and of the frosts of winter until they tower above all other plants of earth, and become the ornament, the beauty, the grandeur and sublimity of man's earthly dwelling place.

There is likewise in nature's forests something above the art of man. No mathematician has been there to mar the beauty of nature's plans. No sharp angles, no squares, no right angles, no distortions of nature, but lines of beauty of nature's own drawing with a witchery that delights and raises the soul to adoration.

> There Nature's bounties all her charms bestow,
> Bold rise her forests, rich her garlands grow,
> Bright lakes expand, and lovely streamlets flow.

It was Ex-Governor Morton, of Nebraska, who invented Arbor Day. This nation is indebted to him for that invention. Thanks to our governors who always, by proclamation, remind us when that holiday comes. Let us not forget that equally important law, invention perhaps I should say, already alluded to, of planting roadside trees. Our public highways may thus become avenues of beauty, utility and protection from storms and tempests. If properly utilized our highways would supply us in fruits.

There are some scenes, some events, and some men and women, on which we love to ponder. It may be out of place for one who is not a citizen of your country, to recall to your minds, some of these persons or events, as some more competent pen should be employed to bring them back to your thoughts.

You will, however, permit me to speak of one man, well known by members of this Society, who has left a few footprints on the sands of time, whom we should respect and honor. A Pennsylvanian by birth, it is no marvel that when he saw the prairies of Illinois his thoughts would wander back to the forests of his native state.

By studying trees, their utility and beauty, he became an enthusiast in tree-planting. The shaded streets of Bloomington, the groves and avenues of Normal, testify to his good taste. He seemed to be desirous to be known only as a citizen. But pardon me for saying *only*. Is not the sober and honest citizen of the United States of America of the highest dignity? And is not the title American citizen, with his freedom of will and potent ballot, by which he makes and unmakes legislators, governors, and presidents, the noblest title this side eternity?

In almost all professions and occupations there is now and then a mind which will throw a charm around its vocation.

Nor you, ye proud impute to these the fault
  If memory o'er their tombs no trophies raise,
Where through the long drawn aisle and fretted vault,
  The pealing anthem swells the note of praise.
Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
  The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear,
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
  And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

I feel assured that you have in your thoughts anticipated me. You know I mean my friend, your friend, the friend of all good men, Jesse W. Fell.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, this topic of forests and tree-planting to me is simply endless, boundless, and sublime. I must weary you no longer; merely inviting you to travel due west from this place seventeen and a half miles as the crow flies, and there see what an old school teacher has done in the way of tree planting. He sold out his school in this city, then a village, in 1850. In 1851 he went on the naked prairie to make a home for a numerous family. Educated did you say? Of course he was. He could perhaps call a horse in two or three dialects, and did not know how to put the harness on him. In fact he was soon convinced that the horse knew more about farming than he did. But patiently, persistently, and awkwardly he went to work. Luckily his wife knew more about farming than he did. There you will find three beautiful groves planted by his own hand, a roadside of handsome white ash—two rods apart. In front of his residence are eight varieties of evergreens, several deciduous trees; among which towers the matchless and useful tulip tree (Lireodendron-Tulipifera.)

Come Ladies and Gentlemen: But if you all come at one time there may not be room to entertain all in the dwelling, but plenty of room to stand up under the magnificent trees. What a pleasure it would be to meet my old pupils once more, some of which are still in this city, others of them have taken Horace Greeley's advise and gone west. My friends say that I am troubled with that infectious disease called "Tree-planting-on-the-brain." Better for our country if it were contagious.

The West Point of Blooming Grove, Sec. 13 T. 23-1 E was called Low's Point or ow's Grove.

The West Point of Buckle's Grove, Sec. 25, T. 22-3 E. was called Johnson's Point.

Rabbit Hill S. E. Cor. Sec. 23, T. 22-1 W.

Walnut Grove, N. W. S. W. Sec. 6 T. 23-1 E.

Soft Maple Grove, N. W. Cor. W. ½ N. W. ¼ Sec. 31 T. 24-1 E

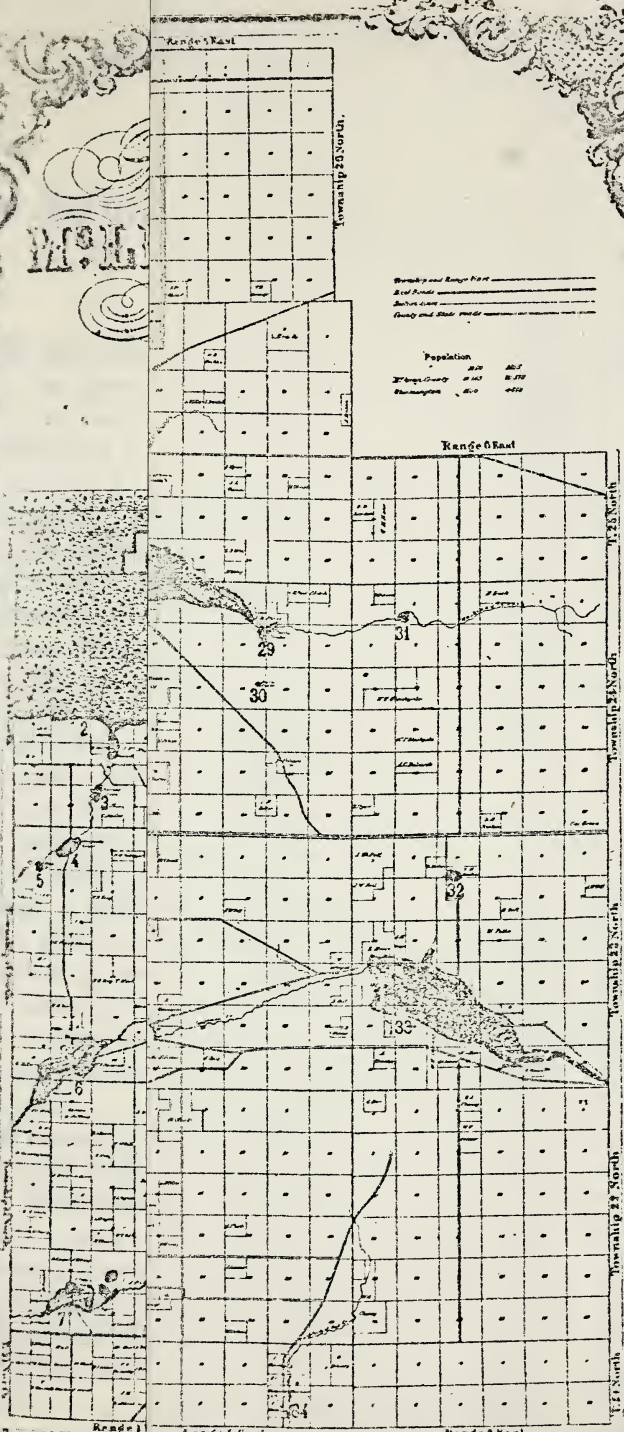
Hard Maple Grove, N. E. N. W. N. W. Sec. 31, T. 24-1 E.

Hackberry Grove in the N. E. corner Sec. 12, T. 22-1 W.

Hickory Flat in the S. W. ¼ Sec. 12, T. 22-1 W.

Garber's Grove,
Stout's Grove,
Barnes' Grove,
Mosquito Grove,
Elm Grove,
Brook's Grove,
Johnson's Grove,
White Oak Grove,
Dry Grove,
Twin Grove,
Brown's Grove,
Hougham's Grove,
Murphy's Grove,
Funk's Grove,
Haven's Grove,
Major's Grove,
Blooming Grove,

18 Orendorff's Grove,
19 Randolph's Grove,
20 Short Point,
21 Long Point,
22 Money Creek Timber,
23 Smith's Grove,
24 Bishop's Grove,
25 Diamond Grove,
26 Mackinaw Timber,
27 Old Town Timber,
28 Buckles' Grove,
29 Funk's Timber,
30 Bray's Bunch,
31 Cunningham's Bunch,
32 Rankin's Grove,
33 Cheney's Grove,
34 Weedman's Grove.


Range 5 East
Township 25 North
Population
Range 6 East
T. 23 North
Township 24 North
Township 23 North
Township 22 North
29
30
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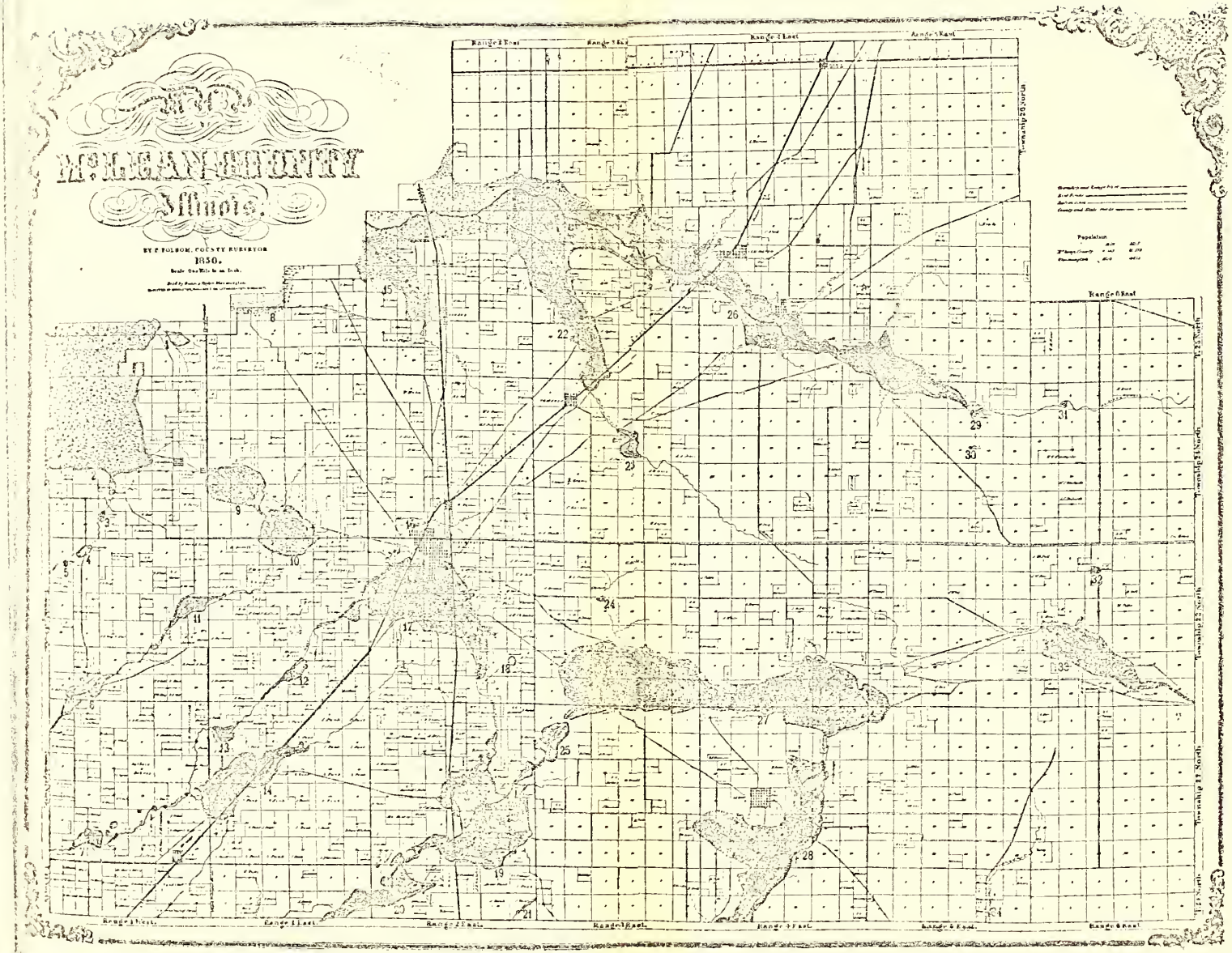
Range 1
Range 4 East
Range 6 East



Reduced Copy of Peter Folsom's Map of McLean County, Published in 1856. Size of Original 3 ft. 6 in. by 2 ft. 9 in.

The Natural Groves of McLean County.

BY PETER FOLSOM.

The first settlers of McLean county found the country mostly prairie, but groves of timber to the amount of about one-eighth of the entire surface were scattered at intervals, which gave a park-like appearance to the whole country. These groves had tolerably sharp outlines, with but few points where scattering trees extended into the prairie, but as settlers clustered around the edges of the timber, the boundaries of the groves became changed until at the present time it is difficult to trace the outlines of the timber.

According to the original survey there were approximately in the several towns of McLean county, the number of acres set against each one as follows: Mt. Hope, 940; Allin, 1,120; Danvers, 11,300; Funk's Grove, 3,020; Dale, 1,090; Dry Grove, 2,640; White Oak, 240; Randolph, 7,530; Bloomington, 5,860; Normal, 100; Hudson, 5,700; Downs, 1,350; Old Town, 6,620; Towanda, 460; Money Creek, 8,908; Gridley, 3,180; Empire, 8,760; Dawson, 4,598; Lexington, 4,220; West, 260; Arrowsmith, 320; Martin, 1,040; Lawndale, 1,445; Cheney's Grove, 3,090; Anchor, 40, making a total of 83,831 acres.

The groves in most instances were named after those who first settled in them, as for instance, Funk's grove, Randolph's grove, Buckles, Cheney's grove, Haven's, and Stouts' grove. There was no timber in Chenoa, Yates or Bellflower. The original timber has been cut away more in Blooming grove than any other in the county.

Fifty years ago there as a large oak tree standing on the west side of Main street between Front and Grove streets in Bloomington. There were also two or three trees on the block west of the above named tree, these marked the extreme northern limit of Blooming grove; from these trees the line of the grove extended southeasterly to a point near the intersection of the Illinois Central railroad with Clay street, thence in a little more southerly course by the residences of William Hodge, James Price and John

Rhodes and across the Little Kickapoo, from thence running nearly south to near the northwest corner of section 35, where it rounded off to the west about half a mile, taking in a small portion of the northeast quarter of section 34, crossing the creek and turning north, in which direction it ran for one mile, thence northwesterly including the greater part of section 22, the north half of 21 and a small part of sections 20 and 19, the greater part of section 18, the southeast half of 7, a small part of 6, thence an easterly course through the south half of sections 5 and 4 to the beginning.

The following is a list of the different varieties of the indigenous trees of McLean county, to-wit:

The burr, white, red, black, and chinkapin swamp oak, linn, honey locust, hackberry, coffee nut, sassafras, ironwood, black cherry, choke cherry, common or white elm, slippery elm, black and white walnut, shellbark hickory, pignut hickory, sugar maple, soft or white maple, white ash, blue ash, sycamore, cottonwood, mulberry, aspen, buckeye, box elder—red bud, dogwood, black haw, red haw, willow, service berry, sumach—prickly ash, bluebeech or leatherwood, paw paw, crab-apple, wild plum, elder, and wahoo. Wild currant, gooseberry and hazle are among the shrubs. The soil in the timber is a little different from the prairie soil, the former being a lighter color and more inclined to be clayey and it is generally regarded as being not so rich as the prairie. As the groves are gradually cleared and converted into farming lands and artificial groves and scattering trees increase on the prairie, it will soon become difficult to determine from the appearance of the country the boundaries of the original groves.*

Note by Elmer Folsom, son of Peter Folsom, and City Engineer of the City of Bloomington:

The following is the number of acres in each of the natural groves of McLean county according to the map by Peter Folsom published in 1856. A number of the groves are partly in McLean and partly in adjoining counties. Mackinaw timber, Haven's Grove and White Oak Grove extend northwest into Woodford county, Stout's Grove extends northwest into Woodford and Tazewell counties, Kickapoo timber and Buckles' Grove

*On the authority of Mr. Van Ordstrand, who formerly lived in Heyworth, I am able to state that the persimmon has been found in this county in the grove about two miles southwest of Heyworth. It has probably been found in this county in other localities.

The red cedar was found by our first settlers at a place still called Cedar Bluff, near the Mackinaw, on section 6 in the town of Hudson. Mr. Charles T. Gildersleeve has told me that his uncle, who was one of the Hudson colony, cut cedar trees from that land from which he made water buckets. J. H. BURNHAM.

extend south into DeWitt county. In these instances the acreage in McLean county only is given.

	Acres.
Funk's timber in sections 10 and 11—24—5e	80
Mackinaw timber	20,960
Money Creek timber	3,960
Haven's Grove	2,080
White Oak Grove	240
Garber's Grove	160
Stouts' Grove	11,200
Barnes' Grove	40
Mosquito Grove	100
Elm Grove	30
Dry Grove	1,680
Twin Grove	1,840
Major's Grove	100
Smith's Grove	400
Bray's Bunch	10
Cheney's Grove	3,160
Old Town timber	14,200
Blooming Grove	6,280
Hougham's Grove	360
Murphy's Grove	220
Brown's Grove	560
Brooks' Grove	800
Johnson's Grove	380
Funk's Grove	2,700
Kickapoo timber below Randolph's Grove (Short Point)	1,680
Randolph's Grove	6,240
Diamond Grove	720
Buckles' Grove	7,280
Sixteen small unnamed groves, aggregating	490
Total	87,950

This is somewhat in excess of the amount indicated by the original survey, mentioned by Peter Folsom in his paper on the natural groves of McLean county.

ELMER FOLSOM.

SNIPING.

BY MAJOR W. PACKARD.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—The early history of Bloomington and McLean county would be incomplete without some reference to a custom, or pastime, that obtained and was observed in the early days, by the young men of the community, and sometimes assisted in by the older ones—familiarly known as "Sniping."

In those good old times every newcomer was looked upon as more or less an interloper, by the older settlers and those to the manor born; and the newcomers, especially from the eastern states, were wont to put on airs of superiority, and boast, just a little, of what people said and did *down east.* And out of these two facts I think the custom of sniping originated. It was, in itself, an innocent practical joke, intended to correct any idea of superiority in the newcomer, and initiate him into the usages and customs of the west; and its application proved quite salutary.

No man was ever made the victim of the joke but once, for obvious reasons, and after that one experience he was as ready and willing to snipe the next "Smart Alek" that came along, as the oldest sniper of them all; and it was the *Smart Aleks* the boys were after. Along in the forties all newcomers from the eastern states were called "Yankees," and as this state was then considered, and was in fact a part of that uncertain and evasive locality known as the "Far West," all the new acquisitions to its population were looked upon in the same questionable light that is bestowed upon the "Tenderfoot" in the real far west,—the cattle ranches, mining camps and mining towns of the mountain regions of our continent.

When I made my appearance here in 1844, the sniping idea as a civilizer was in full practice in all proper cases and why I was not selected as one of its most deserving subjects, I never quite found out, for I would have been an easy dupe, as at that time I was passionately fond of hunting-sport, and never allowed any-

MAJOR W. PACKARD.

thing in that line to pass me by unnoticed. But the boys, mercifully, waived my initiation, in *that* very appropriate ceremony, at least, for which I have ever been duly thankful! So that what I relate concerning that wholesome custom, and a few notable examples thereunder will be as I received it from those who were in it at the time, and my recollections of the current talk of the neighborhood when some of the events actually occurred.

The usage, its prelude and *modus operandi* were in short about as follows: First, a newcomer, who was considered to be a proper subject: That decided by the junta, then the next thing in order was to approach him in such a way as to excite his interest in the sport, and induce him to express a desire to join in it. This was usually brought about by delegating two or more of the shrewdest operators to talk, not to him, but within his hearing about the matter, letting fall such expressions as—"they say the snipe are just swarming,"—"fat, too, and real tame"—"boys got a big haul the other night,"—"suppose we go out some night soon," etc., etc. If the fellow had any sport in him, or curiosity about him,—and most human beings possess a little of both—he would soon begin to take some interest in the matter and commence asking questions; and if he did he was lost, for these special agents were keen fellows and they so conducted the conversation that the prospective victim in nearly every instance, was led up to a request to be allowed to join the next sniping excursion; which was, of course, granted, but not too readily, the experts usually promising to "see the boys and let him know." The boys always consented and the victim always went along, and always held the bag too—either alone or with another person.

The next thing in order was to set a night for the excursion, and appoint a place of preliminary meeting in some store room or shop, from which to set out all together, and to which to return after the excursion. At this preliminary meeting the new man was posted in the habits of the bird, and the method of conducting his capture. He was told that this species of the great snipe family, was a particular visitor of the West, but was little known in any other locality; that at night they settled down in immense flocks in the thickets along the edges of the timber, and remained there all night unless disturbed, and if approached care-

fully, they would neither fly nor scatter, but would run along ahead of their pursuers like a flock of sheep, or like quail being driven into a net.

As soon as the time arrived and it became sufficiently dark to suit the purposes of the expedition, the party set out sack in hand for the sniping grounds, entertaining the intended victim on the way by more particularly describing the habits of the game, and the particulars of the manner of procedure in securing them and the fact was especially impressed upon him that while it took experienced and careful hands to drive the game, anyone who could be patient and keep perfectly still could hold the bag; and further, that this particular kind of snipe, after night-fall, always sought out the darkest places to spend the night, and when disturbed they still followed the darkest paths along the deepest thickets by way of hollows, amongst the brush near fallen trees and old logs, etc., and therefore they always sought out some place of the kind to set the bag and station the holder.

Arrived on the ground the spot was soon selected and prepared—generally near some old fallen tree that had at some part a passage under it for the game to pass through; the bag set and the bag-holder—who was, as a matter of course the tenderfoot—placed in easy position and specially instructed in his duties, mainly, perfect silence and keeping the mouth of the bag well open—for, said the chief director and leader, "when they see that dark opening they are *dead sure* to rush in pell-mell; and as soon as the bag is full you must be quick to close the mouth and keep them there, for if they once turn on you and begin to run out the Old Nick himself can't stop 'em." This done, the drivers, after consulting and agreeing as to the different routes to be pursued by each one, sallied forth, *ostensibly* to drive in the game, but really to go back to the meeting place in town. They did not "fold their tents like the Arabs" because they had none but they "as silently stole away"—leaving the poor *snipee* to hold the bag until it dawned upon his superior intelligence that he was at the butt end of a huge western joke.

Of course this occupied some little time in all cases, but its duration varied according to the *real* astuteness of the victim. When he became tired of the business and satisfied that his comrades had deserted him, then *he* folded his *sack* like a snipee—or

otherwise, according to the thermal condition of his temper, and *just as* silently stole away—generally to his own couch, a *madder* if not wiser tenderfoot.

This is simply the theory of sniping as a western institution or custom: But as all theories are best illustrated by quoting examples arising under them, I will refer to a few that have either come under my own observation, or have been related to me by those who participated in them. The first that I will relate did not occur in this county, but as one of our townsmen was connected with it, and he is my authority for its occurrence, I will state the facts as nearly as I can: The gentleman to whom I refer was then a young man, and in an adjacent, or neighboring county at school. There came to the town while he was there, pursuing his studies, with other students, a man of nearly middle age from Maine, a real live Yankee, quite conceited, very talkative, and proverbially *cute.* He boarded at the same place with many of the students, and other residents, and was wont, on convenient occasions, to air his peculiar cuteness in speeches like the following: "*Yeaw* western fellers are smart, and pretty cute, but I came from away *daown east* in the state of Maine, where they pry up the sun with a rotten stick—yeaw can't fool me," and words of like import.

Well, the boys listened to these rather opinionated observations until they became just a little nettled, and they began to question among themselves, whether they might not be able to fool the fellow a little, or at least teach him a lesson in the western art of sniping.

So they laid their plans, and proceeded very cautiously in the matter of letting him hear parts of private conversation about the game. The fellow, whom we will call Russell, for convenience, was pretty sharp, but he possessed a goodly share of curiosity too, and when it became apparent he had taken the bait and was listening, one of the conspirators said to the other, "Why, some boys down here went out the other night and got a bag full in no time; suppose we go out to-night and try them." That was a little too much for Russell to stand, and he chipped in at once, and Yankee-like began to ply the boys with questions, which they replied to with very little seeming interest, but managed to lead him on to the vital request to be allowed to become one of the party; of course

they consented; but not without considerable hesitation, and also exacting a promise from him that he would obey orders strictly.

Well they all went sniping that night, Russell and the bag with the rest; and he held the bag as usual and the old hands did the driving in the usual way, that is to say that they left for home as soon as they got out of hearing, leaving their dupe squatted down in the snow—for a light snow had fallen—holding the mouth of the bag well open, as per instructions, to admit the fool snipe that never came. He was completely deceived, and very faithful and remained there a long time, for hours at least; but the light finally dawned upon even him that he *had* been fooled and by the "western fellers" too.

Well he sneaked home, very late, and sought his boarding house; and when inquired of "where he had been, and what kept him so late," he was very reticent, and continued so to be. In fact *he* never mentioned it; but it got out; and others *did* mention it, to his great annoyance and chagrin, insomuch that Russell, the sun-riser, finally left the town.

In the old sniping days there were many stories current of instances, here at home, where very good men were victims to their curiosity, which resulted in holding a bag of a dark night, near some old, moss-covered log with a hole under it, waiting patiently and long for snipe to enter, that never came. It is said that General Gridley was a victim, and Ortogral Covel, his brother-in-law, another, when they were fresh arrivals and their feet were slightly tender, and on good authority, too; but both of them lived to eke out their revenge on some other inquisitive tenderfoot in due course of time.

A good story is told of an Irishman who came here, whom I knew very well, but whose name is gone from my memory, but that is just as well. He was an ardent admirer of Mr. Gridley, (who was then only a colonel) and used to call him "Mr. Kunnel Gredley," and whatever Gridley *told* him he believed implicitly. Well they, Gridley with the rest, took him out sniping one cold, snowy, winter night, far out in the grove, and left him there, knelt down in the snow under a big log, holding the bag. Gridley himself imparting the usual instructions to keep quiet, be silent and wait.

The party went back to town of course, as soon as they were out of hearing, and waited long and patiently for the Irishman to make his appearance, but he came not, and they finally became alarmed, fearing he might freeze, and sent out a relief part to explain matters and bring the fellow in. They found him as they had left him, sitting *pat,* (pardon the pun) in the snow, under the log faithfully and patiently waiting. They informed him that it was too cold for the game and none could be found; and that the balance of the drivers had gone home, and sent them to his relief. He asked, "Did Mr. Kurnel Gredly send me any ordher to lave me post?" They said, "no" but he joined with the others in advising us to come here and bring you in," "Go to the divel, thin," said he, "the Kurnel placed me here, and ordered me to remain until the shnipes came, or he tould me to lave, an divil a shtep will I move until himself bids me, or sinds his written ordher," and the party actually returned without him, and they were obliged to send out another party with the *written order* before the faithful fellow would budge an inch.

When he *did* return and learned the whole thing was only a practical joke, and that Gridley himself had once been a like victim, he declared he was proud to be the subject of "anny joke that would decave so shmart a man as Mr. Kurnel Gredley."

I shall relate but one more example under this old and very useful custom and would not add even that, were it not that I consider it too good to be lost and altogether deserving of a conspicuous place in the county's history.

A young man had come to Bloomington, from whence I know not, and whose name I will not give, for he is yet with us and might not like it, but for convenience we will call him William. The boys soon marked him down as their game and without delay set the machinery in motion to capture him. He proved vulnerable and in a very short time begged the privilege of joining the next excursion, which was duly considered and granted in the usual way.

The night appointed for the sport arrived, and the party all met by arrangement at a certain room to which they all agreed to return, when the excursion was over. The hour arrived for their departure, and the party, including Grandpap Haines, who was the

best old man sniper in the village, set out for Major's Grove—which was then a beautiful body of timber, skirted by thickets of plum and crab-apple trees and hazel brush; a choice locality for small game, and a favorite resort for Illinois snipe.

The night was dark of course, for that suited the *game* and the purposes of the experts best, but the party arrived safely and selected the darkest thicket, and largest log for the bag holder, and as William seemed just a trifle nervous about being left alone to perform that very important and delicate duty, Pap Haines volunteered to remain with him; and so the matter was arranged, and the two were left on their knees under the log, holding the bag, with mouth distended, between them; the faithful old gentleman to suffer the inconvenience and unpleasantness of the situation for a season, rather than miss the successful consummation of the scheme in hand. And there they knelt and there they waited—in vain of course, the drivers leaving for home in the usual clandestine and deceiving manner, as soon as they were beyond earshot. After the two bag holders had waited about an hour, in their cramped position, William became restless, and in a very low whisper inquired of the old gentleman "what it all meant," as not only had no snipes put in their appearance, but not a sound had been heard from any one of the drivers. Pap quietly told him it was very likely the birds were all on the other side of the timber that particular night, and it would take some time to bring them around, as they traveled, on foot, very slowly, and could not well be hurried, for fear of scattering them and lessening the number to be bagged.

And so, they settled down and waited another hour and yet no snipe, no drivers, no anything but darkness, silence and chilliness, and then the old gentlman himself became restless and impatient and he began berating the boys as a set of good-for-nothing deserters and proposed going home and giving them such small detachments of their minds as would prove a salutary lesson for the future, at least on all like occasions.

So the old man carefully folded up the bag and tucking it under his arm he and William started home, abusing their rascally comrades all the way, without stint or mercy. On their arrival, as soon as they opened the door of the meeting room they were

greeted with the cry of "sniped!" "sniped!" "sniped!" and boisterous laughter from all in the room. William begun to see the point or *one point,* just a trifle, but he was very mad, and waited impatiently for a chance to vent a small portion of his increasing anger upon that recreant crowd; and just as soon as he could be heard and understood, he cried out: "Boys! I appreciate a decent joke as well as any man, and I could even appreciate this low-down excuse for one if it had been played on me alone, but," (turning to Pap Haines) "to keep that poor old gray-headed man squatted down under a log in the cold, damp night air for two mortal hours, waiting for yer pretended Illinois snipe to run into a derned old coffee sack, hasn't one element of a decent joke about it. It's just out*rageous!*"—with a strong accent upon the ultimate and penultimate of the last word. Then the boys *did* laugh, and howl, and scream, and yell, and hold their sides, and twist and contort, and tears ran down their cheeks, and they couldn't stop. It was a rich scene. Compared with it pandemonium was nowhere.

William stood aghast, petrified, speechless; but the strangest, and most unaccountable feature of the whole thing to *him* was, that Pap Haines was laughing as heartily as any of the rest, and seeming to enjoy himself just as much. This puzzled William not a little at first, but yet, light began to dawn, and though slow to believe it, yet the fact became plainer every moment that "Pap" had been used as a decoy, and "that poor old man" was one of the chief conspirators.

As this truth became plainer William's anger subsided, and even *he* began to smile, faintly, and then broadly; and then—*he laughed too: And then* everything was condoned, and William was admitted into full fellowship, was no longer a tenderfoot, but one of the boys—and the western method of improving citizenship through the process of sniping had won another notable victory.

LEONARD SWETT.

"Every man in life occupies the place among his fellows which by quiet and common consent is allotted to him." [1]

Leonard Swett, who resided in Bloomington and vicinity from 1848 to 1865, and in Chicago from 1865 until his death in 1889, was one of the most widely known and successful lawyers Illinois ever produced.

Never occupying a public office, except as a member of the State Legislature for a single term in 1858, he nevertheless by reason of great ability and a widespread interest in the cases and public events with which his name is associated enjoyed during his lifetime a most enviable reputation in his chosen profession, and the death of no lawyer which the West has yet produced has called forth higher testimonials of appreciation, both of his legal ability and personal character, than have been written and spoken concerning Leonard Swett.

Tall and erect in stature, dignified and commanding in personal presence, possessing strongly marked features—a noble face, brilliant black eyes overhung by heavy, bushy brows—gifted with a powerful, yet admirably modulated voice, suave manners and persuasive tongue, Judge Grosscup[2] has characterized him as the typical lawyer of the Northwest.

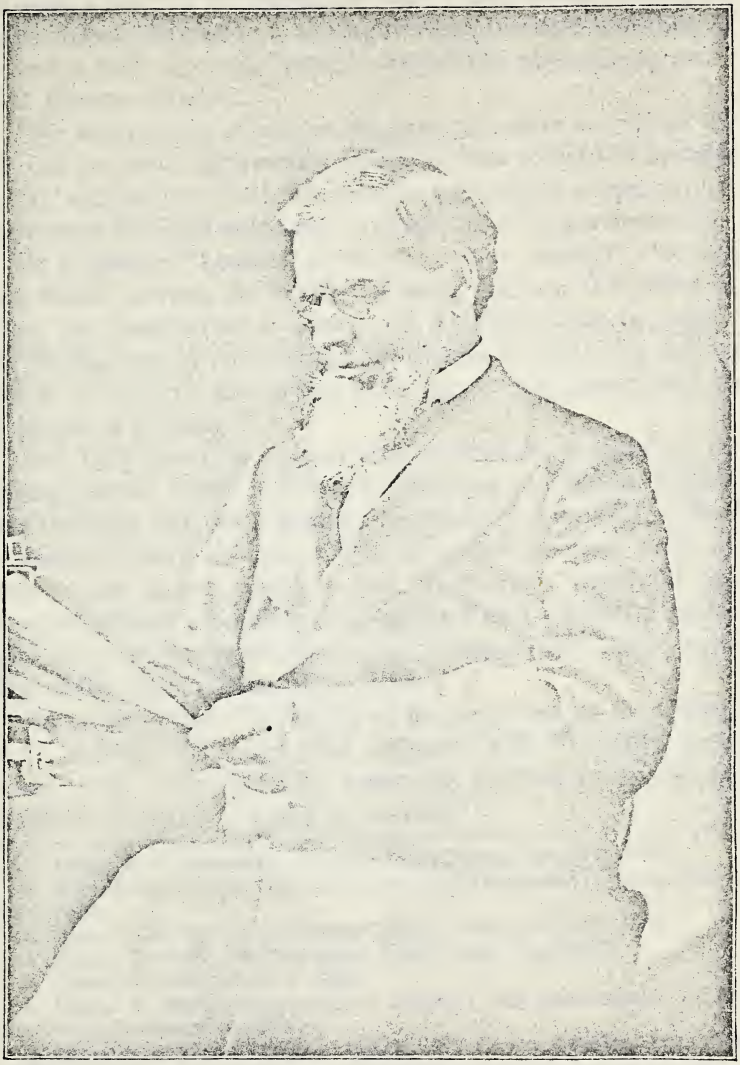
Although "his mind had that quality of clearness and cogency that fitted him for every department of the law"[3] and he was "a wise and prudent adviser, a profound judge of men and motives, great in negotiation,"[4] and "unexcelled as a manager of

1. Leonard Swett, in his address on the life and character of Hon. David Davis.

2. Dean of Northwestern University Law School, and United States Circuit Judge at Chicago.

3. Judge Lawrence Weldon's unpublished address on the life of Mr. Swett, delivered before the Chicago bar June 15, 1889.

4. John J. Herrick, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.



LEONARD SWETT.

interests,"[1] it was in the trial of cases that his ability shone most conspicuously.

As an advocate "he was one of the most persuasive who ever addressed a jury at the American bar,"[2] and as an achiever of results "when retained in a cause involving intricate questions of law and of fact, he rarely failed to accomplish all that was possible to human endeavor."[3]

"He was equally at ease in the criminal court as well as the civil and he could successfully defend a man accused of murder one day and the very next take part in the trial of a case, involving the most intricate and important questions of corporate law."[4]

As a speaker "Leonard Swett was a born orator,"[5] "he had great logical powers, the faculty of keen analysis, the power of pathos, the imagination to adorn and illustrate what he said,"[6] and "in the rare art of causing his hearers to see as he saw, to think as he thought, and to feel as he felt, he was unsurpassed by any lawyer of his time."[6]

For forty years he labored most assiduously at the bar, beginning practice before a justice of the peace at Clinton, Illinois, when that city was but a hamlet; he gradually extended his field of experience until he appeared in all grades of court from the lowest to the highest, until he had "tried every variety of case known to judicial proceeding, and acquired that wonderful professional power which comes alone from extraordinary talent, cultivated to the highest point of proficiency."[7]

As he stood thus "at the top of his profession at the Chicago bar,"[8] suddenly the life cord snapped, and "Leonard Swett crossed to the other shore, his armor on, his face to the foe and the cheers of victory ringing in his ears."[9]

1. Judge P. S. Grosscup, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
2. Wirt Dexter, (Ex-president Chicago Bar Association) Chicago Times, June 9, 1889.
3. Hon. E. B. Sherman, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
4. Edwin Walker, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
5. Chicago Times, June 9, 1889.
6. James L. High, (Ex. president Chicago Bar Association) Chicago Legal News, December 7, 1889.
7. Judge Lawrence Weldon's address before the Chicago bar, June 15, 1889.
8. Chicago Globe, June 9, 1889.
9. Hon. E. B. Sherman, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
10. John J. Herrick, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.

It is however as a man among men that Leonard Swett received the highest meed of praise. Judge Elliot Anthony[1] speaks of him[2] as a man "of the very highest type and one who pursued a lofty ideal;" Dr. J. L. Withrow[3] as a "man of wide knowledge, unswerving integrity and constant devotion to right principles;" Thomas Dent[4] as "a friend of man in all of the various spheres of life, whether in conspicuous position or in lowly walks." And Judge Grosscup[5] as "one who kindled every heart he touched, who inspired every mind he spoke to, and whose kindness was not mere kindliness, but was a fountain of sympathy overflowing by the pressure from behind."

ANCESTRY AND EARLY LIFE.

Leonard Swett was born at Turner, Maine, August 11, 1825. His father, John Swett, Jr., was a farmer, and is described as a good business man, a worker in the cause of temperance, and a sincere and earnest Christian. As a young man he served as a soldier in the war of 1812, and died at the age of seventy—on the farm which as a young man he redeemed from the wilderness,—respected and honored by the community in which he passed his life.

His mother's maiden name was Remember Berry. She was a woman of great strength of character, and transmitted to her son Leonard, the subject of this sketch, much of the force and energy for which he was distinguished.

His grandfather, John Swett, was also a farmer and one of the early settlers of Buckfield, Maine. His farm is remembered as a pattern of neatness and thrift; he accumulated a good property and he and his wife, Elizabeth Warren, are both spoken of as "industrious, prudent, temperate, moral, and religious."

His great-grandfather, Dr. Stephen Swett, was the first physician to settle in Gorham, Maine, in 1770. He is mentioned by Pierce in his history of that town as patriotic, and possessed of

1. Illinois State Circuit Court.
2. Industrial Chicago, vol. 6, page 709.
3. Chicago Inter Ocean, June 12, 1889.
4. President Illinois State Bar Association, 1888. Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
5. Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.

great energy. He served in the War of the American Revolution as surgeon of Col. Edmund Phinney's Thirty-first Massachusetts regiment of Foot in 1775, and died at the age of seventy-five years.

Of his more remote ancestors, as far back as John Winthrop, the first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, from whom his descent is traced, they were all so far as known, among those hardy pioneers who redeemed New England from the wilderness, laid the foundations of our country's greatness, and left records of character which are the admiration of posterity.

Leonard Swett worked on his father's farm, attending school in winter, until he was twelve years of age. At that time he began the study of Latin and Greek, walking three miles to Turner village to recite his lessons to the Rev. Thomas R. Curtis, a Baptist clergyman there, and at fifteen commenced a preparatory course at North Yarmouth Academy, entering Waterville College —now Colby University—at the age of seventeen.

After studying there three years, he entered the law office of Howard & Shepley at Portland, where he remained two years.

At the age of twenty-two, Mr. Swett left Portland to make his own way in the world. Up to this time he had been assisted from home, it having been agreed years before in family council, that Leonard should be fitted for a profession and his only brother, Danville, should have as his portion the home farm.

Feeling that New England offered few opportunities for one who must make his own way in life, Mr. Swett attempted to locate himself in the southern states, paying his way by acting as a book agent for a northern firm. He went first to New Orleans, thence worked his way through the southern states northward to Indiana where, weary and discouraged by repeated failure to gain more than a meager subsistence, heart-sick at the rude repulse the world returned for his best endeavors, he joined the Fifth Regiment of Indiana Volunteers, then being raised for service in the War with Mexico, which at this time was drawing to a close.

Soon after enlisting in the army it was his fortune to learn one of the most valuable lessons of life, that of absolute self-control, and which though it nearly cost him his life at the time was in his subsequent career as a lawyer of the greatest value.

While a member of what is known as the "awkward squad," he with others was drilled by a sergeant who bullied and cursed his men with such savage vindictiveness, that on one occasion young Swett sprang from the ranks, and attempted to kill his tormentor with a bayonet, on the spot. A few moments later he found himself in the guard house, a court martial was ordered at once, and Mr. Swett expected to be shot at sunrise the next day.

At this trial, which took place almost immediately, he was allowed to speak in his own behalf. As he thought of the terrible fate which seemed to confront him, of the disgrace that would be attached to his name and family as the news was carried back to his native town, "shot for insubordination," he broke down completely and told the story of his life, how through self-denial his parents had tried to prepare him for an honorable and useful life, how he had enlisted, expecting to do his duty but that he had forgotten himself in the excitement caused by abuse which he seemed in no way to deserve. The commanding officer finding the facts were as stated discharged him with a severe reprimand and ordered the sergeant to other duty.

Mr. Swett served under Gen. Winfield Scott along the line from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico. Here he passed through the varied experience of a soldier's life; he endured the weary march in the burning tropic heat; enjoyed the magnificent scenery of the Spanish Cordileras, and followed our flag, advancing along the causeways of the Montezumas, until prostrated by fever. He was then removed to Vera Cruz where for five weeks he was confined in an army hospital, sinking gradually under the effects of disease until he heard a passing physician say he would probably die in a few hours. Slowly, however, he recuperated, at first sufficiently only to sit on a veranda and wonder what soaring buzzard would tear his body from a shallow grave and later to face starvation on the brig Robert Morris in which he, with one hundred and twenty-five other convalescent soldiers were forwarded to New Orleans. So feeble was his condition at this time that when asked by a surgeon whether he could walk from the hospital to the boat that would take him to the vessel lying in the offing, he replied, "I think I can walk that far towards home, but do not think I could walk that distance in the opposite direction,"

and before arriving at the ship he became so exhausted that a rope had to be placed around his body and he was pulled up onto the vessel.

This vessel was provided with only four days' rations, and drinking water which for six months had been stored in its hold. The ship was becalmed on its homeward voyage and was thirteen days in reaching port. On this terrible journey, says Mr. Swett, "nearly one-third of the passengers died and were thrown overboard." "Finally having arrived off the bar at New Orleans, we were towed up to the city, the officer in charge left us two or three days in sight of the place where we were to land, the weather being very rainy and the soldiers on board still suffering and dying."

"Finally our commander came on board from the city where he had been on a spree, and our vessel was towed to the barracks. I well remember as we approached them, of hearing a captain in the regular army curse the officer who had us in charge, for leaving us to die, and I also remember his swearing seemed to me religious devotion." "All of us who were not thrown overboard on the passage, then landed and obtained a bath and clean clothing and I was permitted to go to Jefferson Barracks near St. Louis. After remaining there about two weeks I was discharged." From Jefferson Barracks Mr. Swett started for his father's home in Maine. At Peoria, Illinois, he had a relapse and being advised to go back into the country from the Illinois river, he found his way to Bloomington where he arrived in July, 1848, and where he made his home for many years.

One of his friends, the Rev. George W. Minier, thus describes his meeting with Mr. Swett at this time: "As I was seated near the little hotel at Bloomington I saw a tall, gaunt, emaciated, young man come up the street just able to walk. I was attracted to him and spoke to him. He told me he was a discharged soldier, that he lived in a distant state, that his people did not know his whereabouts and that he had come to Bloomington to die, and when he breathed his last he wished me to write his parents of his fate. Mr. Minier adds, "I encouraged him and told him that God still had work for him to do."

From this apparently accidental meeting and these few kind words, we trace the beginning of Mr. Swett's subsequent long and successful career.

LIFE IN CENTRAL ILLINOIS AND ON THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT.

Mr. Swett spent the first year of his Illinois life in regaining his health, teaching school and reading law. In June, 1849, he was admitted to the bar, and began the practice of law at Clinton, a small town near Bloomington. The arrangements of justice in Illinois in early days were well suited to the condition of the country. The state was divided in judicial circuits, including more or less territory according to the population. To each circuit a judge was appointed, who every spring and fall traveled from one county seat to another to hold court and he was accompanied by a number of the best known lawyers, of whom Mr. Swett soon became one.

Clinton and Bloomington were both in what is known as the old Eighth Judicial Circuit. It included fourteen counties in 1849 and was about one hundred and fifty miles long by as many broad. There were no railroads in this part of the state until 1854, and the court and lawyers traveled on horseback and in carriages. There was much that was irritating and uncomfortable connected with circuit riding. The sleeping accommodations were often poor. The food indifferent, roads simply trails, the streams were frequently without bridges, and often swollen and had to be swam. There were sloughs to be crossed which were muddy, and sometimes almost impassable, but there was more which was pleasant and amusing. The freedom, the long days in the open air, the unexpected if trivial adventures, the variety of passing from place to place, the incidents connected with the trial of different cases and the enjoyments of social life.

Much has appeared in print concerning this circuit and its leaders and in regard to Mr. Swett, Mr. Clifton H. Moore has written.[1]

"Our acquaintance with him commenced in 1849. He was a scholarly man, read Latin and Greek fluently besides being a fine belles-lettres scholar, and was from the start looked upon as much more than an ordinary law student. His fine address, dignified manner, as well as his power of reasoning and persuasion, and above all his capacity to cross-examine a witness, and extort

1. Clinton Public, June 14, 1889.

the truth, gave him at once a position and a practice much more remunerative than that of many older members of the bar.

"Mr. Lincoln rode the entire circuit then and Mr. Swett in a year or two went with him. In those early days everybody attended court whether they had business or not, and usually there was one case at each term, in each county, that everybody wanted to hear, and which gave Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Swett a fine opportunity to display their forensic ability. And then after court would adjourn in the evening the crowds that would gather around them to hear their stories were almost suffocating."

In 1849, "the circuit," writes Mr. Swett, "began at Sangamon county on the west and extended to Tazewell, Woodford and Livingston on the north, to Vermilion and Edgar on the east, and to Shelby, Moultrie, Piatt and Cumberland on the south. It embraced fourteen counties but grew less as the country grew older, the legislature making new circuits as the population and business increased until about 1854 it was reduced to six counties, commencing at Sangamon on the west, and embracing Logan, DeWitt, McLean, Champaign and Vermilion.

"Chicago then contained a trifle over 25,000 inhabitants. Peoria, Quincy, Bloomington, Springfield, and Jacksonville were then little villages of from 1,500 to 3,000.

"The settlements of the state skirted along the timber, the streams were without bridges, and dim trails led from one county seat to another. There was not a foot of railroad in operation in the state. Our immense coal fields were either wholly undiscovered or undeveloped and there were no manufactories.

"In this condition of things, at the age of twenty-four years, I met Mr. Lincoln at Mt. Pulaski in 1849, driving his horse, 'Old Tom,' which afterwards became a fixture upon the circuit, and he, and Judge Davis with two horses and buggy, David B. Campbell, the state's attorney, in a buggy, and I sometimes in a buggy and sometimes on horseback commenced the traveling of this circuit together.

"I recall with the vividness of yesterday how the quail whistled to his mate as we passed along, how the grouse with his peculiar whirr arose from his hiding place in the grasses, how the wolf fled and the red deer was startled from the grassy dell. Who that has enjoyed them can ever forget those good old Indian

summer days, when the atmosphere was filled with a hazy smokiness by day, and it was often so light at night, that one could read a paper by the fire of the burning prairie?

"The court at first in counties of ordinary size continued but three days. In counties the size of Sangamon it lasted a week. Arriving at the county seat in the morning about 8 o'clock the litigants would come in generally on horseback, bringing their witnesses in the same way and by 9 o'clock the great old judge would occupy the bench of the log court house and we would be defending some criminal brought into court from the log jail or trying a civil case in which we had never seen the parties or witnesses and probably never heard of the case until that morning. In the evening the judge held a levee at the village tavern. The principal farmers called; Lincoln told his queerest stories; Dave Campbell drew from a superb violin, which he never left behind, tones of sweetness which in memory at least, were not rivalled in harmony and melody by the strains of Ole Bull, and Wednesday afternoon, if it was a court commencing on Monday, we were off again to the next county seat, to repeat there the same work in court, and to enjoy the same levee in the evening. Thus we made our peregrinations, coming around to each county seat twice a year.

"Nor can I fail to recall the splendid galaxy of talent we met. David Davis,[1] the leader of the bar and the community, was the presiding judge. He presented the best rounded character I have ever met in life. He was a natural judge and took to justice by instinct as the hound takes to the scent and was of the same order of mind as Chief Justice Marshall. At Springfield and the western part of the circuit were Stephen T. Logan, keen and incisive as a Damascus blade, and who it is conceded, for quickness and strength, was the best trial lawyer the state ever produced. Abraham Lincoln who has passed beyond eulogy, Edward D. Baker, afterwards United States Senator from Oregon, who died gallantly pointing a cannon with his own hand at the battle of Ball's Bluff, John T. Stuart, a great lawyer and a great man, and David B. Campbell, than whom a more companionable and able

1. Afterwards a judge of the United States Supreme Court and president of the United States Senate.

gentleman never lived. There were also Asahel Gridley, of Bloomington,—Lawrence Weldon,[1] and Clifton Moore, of Clinton. Emerson and Post, of Decatur; Kirby Benedict and U. F. Linder, on the eastern part of the circuit; Edward Hannigan,[2] Caleb B. Smith,[3] J. P. Usher,[4] and Daniel W. Vorhees,[5] who came over with a torrent of eloquence from Indiana to the eastern counties.

"I believe Judge Weldon and Mr. Moore are the only survivors of this brilliant and gallant array."

"When I first knew the Eighth Circuit, 1854," writes H. C. Whitney,[6] "the great triumvirate consisted of Davis, Lincoln, and Swett, and the most important incident in our lives was the semi-annual meeting of court, for we were comparatively shut out from the world.

"The semi-annual shopping of the country districts was transacted during court week, the wits and county statesmen contributed their stock of pleasantry and philosophy; the local belles came in to see and be seen, and the court house from early morn till dewy eve—and the tavern from dewy eve till early morn—were replete with bustle, business, energy, hilarity, novelty, irony, sarcasm, excitement, and eloquence.

"The consideration and trial of each case began and ended with itself; we were continually roused to devise a new policy, new tactics, fresh expedience with each new retainer.

"Each county of course, had a somewhat different population and a somewhat different class of business; each recurring week brought with it a new and different class of clients to treat with, new and different juries to entertain, cajole, and convince; new and distinct conditions of chaos, to evoke order from.

"The life on the circuit was in the nature of a school of events and taught us to deal off-hand and on the spur of the moment, with emergencies."[7]

"The examples of liberal practice and generosity set by Lin-

1. Afterwards a judge of the United States Court of Claims.
2. Later United States Senator from Indiana.
3 and 4. Both Secretaries of the Interior under Lincoln.
5. Also later United States Senator from Indiana.
6. Life on the Circuit with Lincoln, page 67.
7. Life on the Circuit with Lincoln, page 42.

coln and Swett, the leaders of our bar, permeated our whole practice and eviscerated sharp practice. In this Judge Davis heartily concurred and probably there was no circuit where the non-essentials and mere forms were so thoroughly discarded."[1]

"Mr. Lincoln effectively met the elite of the profession at first in fourteen counties and thereafter in eight, as well as the different circuit riders, while generally in later days on the circuits, Leonard Swett antagonized him in most cases of importance in all courts."[2]

The cases that engaged Mr. Swett's attention on the Eighth Circuit at first were of the sort common to a new country. Litigation over bordering lines and deeds, over damages by wandering cattle, and broils resulting from country festivities. Few of the cases were of large importance, but some of them were of great interest—especially the criminal ones—to the community where they were tried. The story of two of them has been preserved and is related by Dr. Andrew J. McFarland[3] of Jacksonville.

"It was an accident that first drew Leonard Swett's attention to the subject of insanity as an element to be considered in awarding justice, and made him the great master of it that he eventually became.

"In a street quarrel growing out of a dispute about a line boundary in the year 1855, one of the disputants, named Wyant, had his arm shot off near the shoulder by the other, named Rusk. The affair occurred near Clinton, DeWitt county, from which place Mr. Swett had just removed to Bloomington. Wyant suffered amputation of his right arm. As soon as he recovered, seeing Rusk one day at Clinton, he followed him and shot him dead. The trial of Wyant occurred by change of venue at Bloomington the next year. It was an exciting one, the court room being packed to the full from beginning to end. Mr. Swett assumed the defense of Wyant, with Abraham Lincoln, in aid of the prosecution, and therefore, Mr. Swett's opponent.

"The Hon. David Davis was the presiding judge. It appeared quite plainly in evidence that a long time before Wyant and Rusk had had any quarrel the sanity of the former had been

1. Life on the Circuit with Lincoln, page 266.
2. Ibid, page 265.
3. Chicago Tribune, June 20, 1889.

in question, as appeared by the testimony of the neighbors, and after the amputation of his arm, it had become especially plain to his physicians. Upon this defense Wyant was acquitted after a trial lasting many days.

"I have heard that our present governor, Hon. Joseph Fifer, first resolved to become a lawyer on hearing the eloquent plea of Mr. Swett in Wyant's defense.

"Before the trial of Wyant Mr. Swett had begun those studies that eventually made him master of all medical evidence ever likely to appear in court in the department of mental disease. Few physicians not in the habit of regularly teaching anatomy, were so familiar with the intricate structure of the human brain. Yet he never ostentatiously used his knowledge. But woe to the medical man who attempted to make a parade of his own. After a few apparently indifferent questions upon the relative position of different organs of the brain, Mr. Swett would quietly lift from under his pile of law books a volume of Gray's Anatomy and hand the book to the witness with the remark, 'I see that Dr. Gray states quite the contrary. Perhaps you had better correct Dr. Gray in this matter.' And all this in the hearing of a crowd of the doctor's patrons, who had been gathered into the court room purposely to hear a display of this unusual kind of learning.

"The able defense of Wyant made Mr. Swett at once conspicuous in legal circles, and it was but a few months before he was again engaged in a case to be still more widely celebrated, the defense of Robert Sloo."

"For this case," says Judge Weldon,[1] "he was indebted to Mr. Lincoln. In the southern part of the state a great tragedy occurred resulting in the death of a gentleman of high position and character. The defendant was the son of a life-long friend of Mr. Lincoln, and in the desperation and despair of the situation the father wrote to him, asking his assistance in the defense of his son. I remember we were at Danville attending the circuit court when he received the letter, and as he finished reading it he said: 'Mr. Swett, I want you to go in my place.' 'I am unknown to the parties and they would not be satisfied with the change,' replied

1. Unpublished address on the life of Mr. Swett, delivered before the Chicago bar, June 15, 1889.

Mr. Swett. Mr. Lincoln then said very earnestly: 'Mr. Swett, if I can get you to go, it is not fair to that young man and his family that I should go.' The result was a correspondence and the employment of Mr. Swett."

The provocation of the killing grew out of "an election" continues Dr. McFarland, "in which Robert's father was a candidate for a small paying office. In the heat of the contest an article appeared in a local paper questioning the integrity of the elder Sloo, and by an inference altogether misplaced reflected on the delicacy of his daughters. Robert ascertained that the author was a Mr. Hall, at that time circuit clerk of the district. He at once went to the court house, where Mr. Hall stood at his desk, and shot him dead by repeated bullets from a revolver. As nothing had ever been talked of as wrong in Sloo's mind and as Mr. Hall was a gentleman universally esteemed, the shock of the crime was greatly felt by the community, and threats of lynching were freely indulged.

"The trial took place at Shawneetown in the summer of 1857. It was remarkable for its length, its sensationalisms, and the array of distinguished men who took part in it. The practicing attorney for the district, in addition to aid from the local bar had the distinguished assistance of the Hon. W. J. Allen, now United States District Judge of Southern Illinois, John A. Logan, now known to all the world, and perhaps others, not at present in mind.

"The defense was conducted by Mr. Swett, Norman L. Freeman, long supreme court reporter of the State of Illinois, T. P. C. Davis, of St. Louis; the Hon. John B. Crockett, the leading lawyer of northern Kentucky and others also forgotten.

"The contest was a stubborn one from the beginning, nearly the whole voting population being sifted before a jury could be impaneled. The trial occurred in the hall of a large building designed as a railroad depot, but converted into a public hall, the road being unused. As the trial progressed, it became daily filled to the point of suffocation, and when the arguments were being made the crowd out of doors stretched as far away as a voice could be heard from the open windows. It is greatly to be regretted that some of the many arguments made on that occasion could not have been preserved. A cheap edition of the trial was published, but it only beggared the subject. Mr. Swett was

then in the thirty-first year of his age, his voice was extremely rich and musical, and always pleasant to hear. His argument as I remember lasted about four hours and ended in the dusk of evening. In fluency of language, copiousness of thought, and aptness of illustration, he never surpassed this effort. The trial had commenced with all the doubts against the defendant, but even before the arguments began, the certainty of acquittal was plain. The retirement of the jury was a formality only, the verdict 'not guilty, by reason of insanity' being brought in directly."

During the decade from 1850 to 1860, as the towns of central Illinois increased in size and importance, one by one the lawyers abandoned the circuit, "and perhaps for five years," wrote Mr. Swett in 1860,[1] "Lincoln and myself have been the only ones who have passed habitually over the circuit." And of their mutual relations he adds, "in the scanty provision of those days, as a rule I slept with him."[2] "It seems to me I have tried a thousand lawsuits with or against him, and I have known him as intimately as I have ever known any man in my life."[1]

PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

As early as 1852 Mr. Swett, in addition to his duties as a lawyer began to take an active interest in politics, and the great public questions of the day. In that year he canvassed the Third Illinois Congressional District as a Whig elector, and upon the repeal of the Missouri Compromise assisted in the formation of the Republican party which was organized in 1856, and in Illinois held its first convention in Bloomington on May 29, of that year, Mr. Swett being one of its members.[3]

During the presidential campaign which immediately followed, Mr. Swett spoke for the party of freedom in many parts of the state, making friends wherever he went, and greatly increasing his reputation as a public speaker.

In 1858 he represented McLean county in the State Legislature to assist Mr. Lincoln in the great fight he made that year

1. Oldroyd's Lincoln's Campaign page 70.
2. Chicago Sunday Tribune, October 23, 1887.
3. Nicolay & Hay's Life of Lincoln, vol. 9, page 73.

to obtain Senator Douglas' seat in the United States Senate. All through 1859 he worked quietly but persistently to awaken a desire throughout the state for Lincoln's nomination as a presidential candidate in the approaching national convention of 1860. And on that great occasion, in connection with Judge David Davis, writes Thurlow Weed in his autobiography,[1] he "contributed more than all others to his (Lincoln's) nomination."

About this time Mr. Swett became a candidate for the office of Governor of Illinois, in the preliminary canvass preceding the state convention of 1860, and though defeated by Governor Yates, he became still more widely known on account of this contest.

At the beginning of the Civil War he was offered the command of one of the first regiments raised in Illinois, but was obliged to decline this honor as he had not entirely recovered from the effects of his service in Mexico. He took, however, a strong personal interest in that conflict and, writes Gen. John McNulta, [2] "was a conspicuous figure in every movement in the interest of the soldiers at the front, his close personal relations with President Lincoln giving him the means of doing good that few possessed. His services covering everything in relation to the organization, outfitting and equipping of troops, his generosity and unselfish efforts being matters of constant comment."

From the time of Mr. Lincoln's nomination in 1860, until his death, Mr. Swett was one of his "close personal and political advisers," [3] "being frequently consulted and employed in matters requiring skill and address to accomplish, so much so that he was in Washington most of the time during his administration." [4] "There many important trusts were committed to his care and many communications were made to him in the confidence of friendship," [5] and "it is also well-known that on several occasions when Mr. Lincoln was in dire distress and when his great heart was wrung by the disappointments and disasters that made the

1. Page 602.
2. Private letter to editor, September 26, 1898.
3. McClure's Lincoln and Men of War Time, page 4.
4. C. H. Moore, Clinton Public, June 14, 1889.
5. Judge Weldon's eulogy of Mr. Swett, delivered before the Chicago bar, June 15, 1889.

nation tremble, he summoned Mr. Swett to his side for consultation and advice, for encouragement and consolation."[1]

Henry C. Whitney who knew both Lincoln and Swett intimately asserts: "I have reason to know that Lincoln thought more of Swett as a man than of any other in Illinois during the war,"[2] and Alexander K. McClure,[3] who was one of the men frequently called to Mr. Lincoln's side in the many emergencies of the war declares:[4] "That of all living men Leonard Swett was the one most trusted by Abraham Lincoln." Thus the period of the war was one of unrivaled opportunity to Mr. Swett to gather information of the most varied character, and to see and understand the inner workings of the greatest administration of American history.

Judge Richard S. Tuthill, in his remembrances of Mr. Swett, states[5] that "he knew every member of Lincoln's cabinet intimately; was the friend of every justice of the supreme court, was acquainted with all the great lawyers of the day; all the great generals of the war, and possessed a wider knowledge of the famous men of his generation than any man living."

Although Mr. Swett received no direct compensation for his connection with public affairs, his services were in no way overlooked by the president, who, on one occasion committed to his care a lawsuit[6] which took him to San Francisco and in a few months netted him a fee almost as large as the compensation received by Mr. Lincoln himself for four years of matchless service to his country.

CHICAGO.

At the close of the war in 1865 Mr. Swett removed to Chicago where he devoted himself assiduously to the practice of his profession until his death, twenty-four years later.

His life up to this time may be considered as a preparation for his Chicago career, which has been characterized,[1] "as a strik-

1. H. S. Monroe, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
2. Life on the Circuit with Lincoln, page 70.
3. Editor-in-chief of the Philadelphia Times.
4. "Lincoln and Men of War Time," page 431.
5. Chicago Times, June 9, 1889.
6. Known as the New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Co. Litigation.

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